

A  
VOYAGE

UP THE

THAMES.

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*Who can her Beauties tell?*

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LONDON:

Sold by J. ROBERTS, in *Warwick-Lane.*

M.DCC.XXXVIII.

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VOYAGE

OF THE

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[The end]





TO  
bring that Fame to our Land, which  
**Mr. HEIDEGGER.**

**SIR,**

**W**HEN the following Voyage was design'd for Publication, the Subject immediately pointed out the Patron: For to whom can a Journey, undertaken with no more View than *Pleasure*, be so properly offered, as to a Gentleman who has so long provided *Delight* for the whole Nation, with such general Applause.

**THERE**

## DEDICATION.

THERE is yet a stronger Motive for sheltering this under your Protection; for, considered as a *Traveller*, you merit more Praise than I am able to bestow; since your *annual Journies* bring that Fame to our Land, which we can hope from no other Quarter; and the modern *Romans* are as constantly sack'd and plunder'd of the *only Riches* they can boast, for our Supply, as their Ancestors used to carry the Wealth of other Nations to *Rome*. Thus is *Latium* ravag'd by *one Man* in our Time, which in former Ages was impenetrable to *Thousands*: And the Superior Excellence of the modern *Romans*, will appear on the flightest Comparison with their Forefathers. --- *Ancient Rome* might indeed boast of a *Cincinnatus*, a *Camillus*, and a *Scipio*; but can lay no Claim to a *CARISTINI*, or a *SENESE*! --- She may extol her *Lucretia* and her *Clelia*; but cannot the *modern Romans* more than counterbalance

## DEDICATION.

terbalance all their Female Glory by the single Name of FAUSTINA! —

They may go yet farther, and value themselves on account of a *Cicero*, a *Pompey*, or a *Cæsar*, but to the modern *Latium* must be left a FARINELLO!

AND to whom, but you, Sir, can we attribute the very different Treatment the ancient and modern *Roman* Heroes have met with in this Island? For, though *Cæsar* found it a hard matter to leave our Shore in a whole Skin; FARINELLO departed in the utmost Tranquility, laden with Trophies, leaving half the Polite Part of the Nation in Tears; who are, in all Appearance, more enraged at *Iberia* for preventing his Return, than on any other Account.

To come still nearer yourself: — Under the *Roman* Emperors, Men of the most distinguished Qualifications were appointed Lieutenants of



## DEDICATION.

of *Britain*, whose Business was, in the first Place, to subdue by *Force of Arms*, or overcome by *milder Measures*, the native Fierceness of our Progenitors ; and then to transmit to the Capital of the Empire, such Treasure as could be amass'd by the free Contribution, (or SUBSCRIPTION it may not improperly be termed) of such as were well affected to the *Roman* Government, and the Confiscations of those who rebelled against it : And he who raised the *most Money* with the *least Violence* or Oppression, gain'd the greatest Honour in his Life-time, and has reached us with the high Applauses of the best Historians.

COMPARISONS are not always warrantable ; but, with all possible Deference to the *Manes* of these deceased Worthies, I must beg leave to think, that by your Endeavours alone, the *modern Britons* have been more *softened* and *reclaimed*, without

## DEDICATION.

out the frightful Consequences of a single Battle, than by the Conduct of all the *Roman* Governors who laboured the Reformation of the former Inhabitants of this Isle. -----

And even with respect to the Returns of Gain to the *Roman* Territories, none who make a proper Estimate of the Expences attending a War, will deny, that by your good Conduct more Money is now annually returned to *Italy* by voluntary Contributions, than could formerly be gather'd by the most avaricious Deputy of *Rome*.

If this be true, and few, I believe, will dispute it, how much is *Italy* obliged to you, and how deeply is *Britain* your Debtor ! And yet, so apt are a whole People to overlook the general Benefits they receive, that I believe myself the first who has had Gratitude enough to return you publick Thanks on the  
Part

## DEDICATION.

Part of *this Land*, though, surely,  
not the first who has thought you  
worthy of them!

*I am,*

*S I R,*

*With profound Respect,*

*Your most obedient*

*Humble Servant.*





A  
V O Y A G E  
U P T H E  
T H A M E S.

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I N T R O D U C T I O N.

To R. M. *Esq*;

S. I R,

**H**AD not the Earnestness with which you requested an Account of this little Ramble, threatned your Displeasure upon a Non-compliance with your Desire, I would gladly have excused myself from a Task to which I found my Talents not near so equal as I at first imagined: — When you mentioned my giving you an Account of whatever occur'd on our Journey, I consented very chearfully, thinking every Mile we went would afford something worthy your Notice: But I found it far otherwise; for the Pleasure raising from the delightful Lawns and Meads for ten or twenty Miles together, makes but a short

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Part in the Description of a Country, and is what has been done, with great Success, five thousand Times already; and the Manner of our Travelling deprived us of any Aid from Monumental Inscriptions and antiquated Grave Stones, which often make a considerable Figure in Works of this kind: And what was worse than all the rest, our going great part of the Way in the Night, and being dragged blindfold past some of the most celebrated Villages on the River, deprived me of more than half my Materials for a Descriptive Account of our Voyage: — This Reduction of my intended Subject at first setting out, dispirited me from my Attempt; since I found that before I could say one Word from my own Observation, I should be as near the End as the Beginning of my Journey — I could not bear the Thoughts of forfeiting my Promise to you, and I found I should be unable to keep it in the manner I proposed — In this Difficulty I determined to supply with Veracity what was wanting in point of Entertainment; and therefore resolved to give you a particular Relation of our Voyage, turn out as it would, without adding any Embellishment whatever; hoping that since I should hereby most literally answer your Desire, you would consider the Inaccuracy of the Performance as unavoidable upon the Plan I was obliged to fly to.

YET even here, like many other unskilful Adventurers, I met with Difficulties I never dreamt of: I found it almost impossible to write in our Vessel; and, when on Shore, found frequent Interruptions in disburdening my Memory which was never too retentive — In this Situation I writ the following Account, which perhaps

## Up the THAMES. III

perhaps you will think treats more of ourselves than of what we met with: But if that were the chief Objection, it would be easily dispensed with, on Account of its Agreement with some modern Travellers of the first Credit, who, were they stripp'd of their own Fancies and Conjectures, their airy Explanations and inconceivable Discoveries, would scarce remain possessed of enough to oblige their Friends with by way of Subscription.

ONE Hardship I laboured under, which but few have to combat; the Scene of my Account is known almost to every one who reads it, as well, or better, than to myself: And this Consideration has been no small Damp to my Genius; for in speaking of Things of which you are a Judge already, or in half a Dozen Hours could detect a Falseness, I have been so constrained to keep sight of Truth, as to lose many Opportunities that offered an agreeable Amusement, durst I have borrow'd but the smallest Assistance from the *Improbable*, to which indeed, as a Traveller, I have a Licence — To compensate for this Restriction I have but one Reflection, That if I have related little to surprise, I have given the less Cause to call the Authority of my Narration in Question.

To give you an Opportunity of judging the better of the Conversation that passed by the way, and of some little Incidents that attended us, I was obliged to give you the Characters of my Companions, which I have done with all possible Impartiality: Of my own you are too sensible to want it from so unfit a Hand: Besides, the Task you assign'd me called so much of my Attention, that I had very little Concern in any thing that passed; being rather a Looker-



on, than one of the Company; for which I suffered several severe Reprimands. — If in reading this Voyage you would be so kind as to consider the Inconveniences I lay under to write it at all, any Oversight will easily be excused; for I can now upon Experience assure you, Sir, that there is great Difference between writing a Journey upon the Road, as it happens, and contriving one in a Closet; which may be one Reason why the latter so generally gain the Preference.

ONE thing I must beg of you; which is, that you will not consider me as any other way accountable for what is contained in this Narration than merely as a Journalist: For I would not willingly be called upon to justify the Errors of other People, while I know myself guilty of a sufficient Number to want more Vindication than I am able to give them. — Your Candor makes me hope for more Indulgence than, perhaps, I may be found to deserve in the Opinion of my Fellow Travellers, who may not be pleased to see some things committed to Writing, which were spoke without that Intention; but they must pardon my making a little free with them, since their depriving me of other Materials forced me to it.

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## CHAP. I.

### *The Motives to undertake this Voyage.*

TRAVELLING has lately become so fashionable, that a Man who has not made the Tour of *Europe*, cannot appear in the

the Beau Monde without Danger of being laugh'd at for his Ignorance; perhaps by such as know much less of their Native Country of *England*, than he does of the admir'd Realms of *France* — How prejudicial this Humour is to our own Country, and what an Advantage it gives our Neighbours over us, must be evident to every one who considers how ductile the Human Mind is in its tender Years, and what Impression the first Ideas make on the Understanding.

THIS Passion after travelling determined us on Beginning this Summer to set out towards *Rome*: But not one of us having been out of the Neighbourhood of *London*, we concluded it would be no Impediment to our Improvement Abroad, to take a slight Survey of some Part or other of the Land of our Nativity, before we ventur'd to approach Foreign Regions; especially as we have lately heard from several Gentlemen that some of our Countrymen have been laughed at for finding fault with the Bridge in *Germany*, because, on being asked how many Arches that cross the *Thames* at *London* consisted of, they reply'd, they knew not.

THESE, and some other Reasons of the same Nature, being agreed upon as sufficient for undertaking a Journey in the *British* Dominions, before we approach the *Lowre*, we held several Consultations before we could resolve which Part would be most proper for our Information: — The *Highlands* of *Scotland* were allowed by us all to promise the greatest Variety of Manners and Customs different from what we had hitherto been used to; and two or three of our Company express'd a great Desire of seeing a Body of those Northern Champions in their martial Accoutrements; to enforce this Journey

Journey they intimated the Advantages we might reap from seeing the famous Iron Manufactures at *Birmingham* and *Sheffield*; the fine Nurseries for Horses in the Counties of *Northampton*, *Nottingham*, and *York*; the fable Gold Mines at *Newcastle*, and the scaly Riches of the *Tweed*; the celebrated Fortifications at *Berwick*, the impregnable Royal Castle at *Edinburgh*, and the famous Bridge at *Aberdeen* — But these, and many other Arguments in favour of the *North*, could not prevail, when it was consider'd that the *Highlanders* having been lately disarmed of their offensive Weapons, could now at most be possess'd but of wooden Swords; and we had all seen *Harlequin* too often to think that a Curiosity: Besides, it was urged with great Success, that the Peace of a Country is never certain while the Clergy are dissatisfied, and a late Act has met with too much Opposition from them to think the Laity in the Tranquility that might be wish'd.

ONE of our Number discover'd a strong Inclination to visit *Wales* — there said he, we shall view the robust Innocence of our Forefathers, unprejudiced by the Influence of a tender Education; and by observing them well, may learn what ourselves would have been without the Mixture of Foreign Countries — against this several declar'd with some Warmth, and one Gentleman said that as far as he could learn from Gentlemen who had visited those *Antient Britons*, they were themselves as destitute of necessary Politeness and Humanity as their Country is of Plenty or Pleasure.

THE *West* was mentioned as capable of instructing us in the great Manufacture of this Kingdom, the Woollen Trade in all its Branches; but



but as it is at present said to be in a very languishing Condition, we thought it not adviseable to view it in Distress; and as our Fathers assure us they never remember to have heard it said to be otherwise, we despair'd of waiting a Change.

UPON an Examination, we found that not one of our Number had ever been farther by Water than *Chelsea* and *Greenwich*; and on considering that go which way we would to *France*, we must go some Part of it by Sea, we judg'd it adviseable to venture more by Water before we cross'd so wide an Ocean.—On this, *Ireland* was propos'd; but it was objected, that though that was indeed Part of the *British* Dominions, yet the Passage to it was more dangerous than to *Bengal*.—The *Isle of Man* was own'd to be nearer; but as we could not well vouch for the Orthodoxy of each other's Religious Principles, we thought the Reception of the poor *Independent Whig* was enough to prevent our visiting an Island, where a Book which travell'd safely through all *England*, was out-law'd on its first Landing.

THE Fame of the River THAMES having reach'd the most distant Nations, it was propos'd that we should take a Voyage up its Banks, which would not only shew us as beautiful a Part of *England* as any in it; but also in some measure inure us to the Fatigues of a Passage by Sea: it was chearfully agreed to, and the Day for setting out on the Expedition was fix'd for the 3d of *March* 1737-8.

## C H A P. II.

*An Enquiry, Whether it is best to go  
Abroad, or stay at Home?*

THE present Mode of Education, were it allowed to be well founded, would leave no Room for a Question of this Nature: To Men of Fortune it is at present thought as essential to their supporting the Dignity of their Station to go *Abroad*, as to *breathe*: This modern Practice of Travel is attended with a very great Expence, and it cannot therefore be thought either unreasonable or unnatural to expect from this great Expence, a proportionate Return of Advantage to the Nation, by the superior Attainments of those Gentlemen, for whom she has disbursed such considerable Treasures. — Every Shilling expended by a Native of any Nation, (of its own Produce) in a Foreign Land, is so much lost to the Country which supplies him; and this can no way be returned to the Community of which his Birth has made him a Member, than by the Advantages arising from the Employment of Talents, which he could not have become Master of by staying at Home. — It will therefore be of the utmost Importance to many Subjects of this Realm, to point out the Particulars, whence our Advantages arising from the Travels of our young Gentlemen come, which are not apprehended by Persons of common Comprehension, by whom Benefits produced by Causes a little remote, are not readily conceived.

IN

IN the Infancy of the *Roman* Republick, the Youth of superior Rank were sometimes sent Abroad, to bring from Nations more civiliz'd than their own, such Laws and Maxims of Government, as were most wanted at Home; and if after they were possessed of every Regulation conducive to the general Good of the People, they looked upon the Absence of their Youth as an Injury to the State, they were so far to blame, as differing so far from the Practice of a Nation, which by the general Voice of *Europe* is allowed to be endowed with every Requisite to make a People Wise, Rich, or Happy.

If it should be urged to be the Interest of every Country, to endeavour to persuade the rising Generation, that the Constitution and Customs of their own Nation are preferable to those of all others, in order to imprint an Esteem and Affection for them; it may with much Smartness be replied, that the best way in the World to make a young Gentleman love the Government of his own Country, is to send him with a declared Design of *Improvement* to some neighbouring Land; for which purpose the Affection of a Father, the Regard of Relations, and even the Fondness of a Mother, are taught to give way.

SHOULD any one insist, that nothing ever contributed more to the Honour of a Nation, than the Extent and Universality of its Language: Experience has taught us, that the best Means of extending the Glory of the *British* Name is to send our Youth to learn the Tongue of an adjacent Land, worse in every Respect than our own, that wherever they go afterwards, they may have an Opportunity of hedging themselves under the *Gallick* Canopy, and thereby avoid any Insult that might be consequent on a Suspi-



cion of their inheriting the Rusticity of an *Eng-lishman*.

If the Dignity of a Nation should be thought to be diminished, by subjecting its Dress to the perpetual Caprice of another, and snatching greedily any ridiculous Whim, that serves only to make the Inventors laugh'd at; it may be whispered for Answer, that thereby we reap the whole Advantage of their Fancy and Contrivance, without the Expence of one single Thought in the Imitation. — To this may be added, the extraordinary Excellence of their Taylors, who can transport a Suit hither to hit *any* Shape; while our own botching Rogues can scarcely please, though you should attend them all the while they are about it.

If the frequent Change of Climate, especially in our Youth, is generally reckon'd to enervate a Bodily Constitution, which ought never to be impaired but upon the most urgent Occasions; this publick Inconvenience may very well be dispensed with, in consideration of the private Benefits produced thereby; of the Truth of which the worthy Physicians and Apothecaries, so numerous in the present Age, are the best Judges; who must own an agreeable Difference between these Days of *Pill* and *Bolus*, and the Times when a few *stew'd Prunes* were thought a Sovereign Remedy for almost every Disorder.

ARCHITECTURE has ever been esteemed a great Ornament to a Country; and what but Travel into Foreign Regions could have supplied us with Models for Fabricks of such varying Looks and Purposes? — By remaining at Home, who would ever have known that a prodigious Expence may be laid out on the Workmanship of a fine Stone Front, and yet wonderfully

fully contrived in such a manner, as to appear to the View just as if no Artists had ever touched it?—Who, without Assistance from an Exotick Gust, could have learnt, that Windows, which are contrived on purpose to let Light into a Room, answer their End best when they are so managed as to let least Light in?—Or who, by spending all his Days on his own Estate, would have known that the most elegant Ornament to an exquisite Portico, is a thick Wall to prevent any Body from seeing it?

How can we enough extoll our Improvement in Gardening, laying out Avenues, &c.? Our Forefathers, ever more mindful of their Bellies than Politeness, made it their Ambition to surround a Country-House with Trees laden with Apples, Pears, Plumbs, &c. by which the Regularity of a green Prospect was not only interrupted, but the home-bred Guest sometimes got the Gripes before Dinner: Whereas now nothing is used on these Occasions, but what answer the Design of Ornament so well, as to be incapable of being applied to any other Purpose whatsoever.—Even the very Edges of a Grass or Gravel Walk used to be pestered with a throng'd Troop of Currant Shrubs, and Gooseberry Bushes, proper Attendants on a Dinnerless Visitant: But now a Holly at each Termination of the Eye, and a bit of Yew every 20 or 30 Yards, are much more pleasing to the View, and more correspondent with the Intention of Walking.

I was going to enlarge upon the Wisdom usually attained abroad in every Particular necessary for the Conduct of Life; but as to most of them there may possibly be made such Objections as would call for too much Time to an-

swer, it will suffice on this Occasion to mention two only, which are Qualifications few of our Countrymen return without, and which commonly are chosen as the constant Topicks for Boasting—The one is an Acquirement in Art, the other in Nature, though both of a near Alliance to each other: The first is of *Italian* Growth, viz, The Dubbing some Man of Distinction a Cuckold, spite of Jealousy or his Bravo's; the second, which boasts of a *French* Original, consists in so deep a Knowledge, of the Animal Oeconomy, as to be able to expell the most inveterate Poison without injuring Health or Complexion.

UPON the whole; it is my humble Opinion, that 'till our young Gentlemen shew a warmer Desire after the Attainment of useful Knowledge, than appears at present to prevail amongst them, there is no great Reason to be given for transporting them beyond Sea for *further* Improvement, before they have *begun* to make any at Home; but where a Genius appears so prodigious as to digest whatever we can supply at Home, then it will be adviseable to call in the Aid of other Nations.—But such Instances are not common!

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### C H A P. III.

*A DESCRIPTION of the Company, and more of their HISTORY than is necessary to the Purpose.*

THE Knowledge of Men is so generally preferred to that of Things, that of late it is become no way uncommon to see Books upon



upon almost every Subject recommended to the Learned World, by placing before them with an Air of the highest Importance, *The Lives of the Authors*; what use was at first proposed by these Biographical Prefaces, I will not undertake to determine, but am sure they frequently prevent Readers from going any farther, when by any one part of his Description the Author appears to have been of a Sentiment inconsistent with the Principles of him who was on the point of giving him the Honour of a Perusal.

IN Travels, and Descriptions of Foreign Nations, the Desire of knowing as much as we can of the Persons who write them, is more rational than on any other Occasion, since we may thereby be enabled, in some Measure, to judge of the Opportunities an Author can be supposed to have had of being an Eye-witness of the Wonders he relates, and of his Abilities to decypher the many Curiosities he may think himself concern'd to explain.

FULL fraught therefore with a Desire of giving the ingenious Reader all the Satisfaction he can wish for in this Respect, as well as all others, I shall offer him the truest Description I am able of the Gentlemen who accompany'd me in this Voyage, whereby he will the better know how to account for any Oddness he may meet with in the subsequent Narration, and to guess the Spring of some Interruptions we met with in our Discoveries.

FROM a Difference to the Dignity of his intended Function, I must begin with

MATT. MITRE, educated at *Oxford*, with a Design of possessing a considerable Rectory in the Gift of his Uncle ——— he defers going

ing into Orders till the Death of the present Incumbent, in order the better to attain a thorough Knowledge of the World without having any little Slip, which may attend his Conduct, attributed to the Order of which he designs to become a Member. This Behaviour in MATT, has gain'd him the Approbation of most of his Friends, who, on this Occasion, are frequently wishing that many other Gentlemen had acted with the same Precaution. He is now about Twenty-five Years of Age, but by his being of a very studious Temper, he has brought away as much College-Rust as makes him in all strange Companies pass for Forty; but with regard to his Knowledge of such Subjects as generally occur in mix'd Companies, he can scarcely be rated at Fifteen. — He has his College Rules and Restrictions as much at Heart as if he design'd them for the Pattern of his future Life, and seldom tells a Story without introducing his Tutor or Chum in some Part of it. Parallel to any Account of whatever *young Lady* you mention, he brings his *Bed-maker's Daughter*, and opposes his Tutor's Management of Youth, to the greatest Instances of Skill in conducting the State. — He seems to think the *Fathers* the only certain Oracles for Faith and Doctrine; and places as much Confidence in the antient Councils, as if there could never be an Assembly of learned Men to equal them, in any one respect. — With all this, MATT is possess'd of much Good-nature, and as much Desire of improving himself, as can well be expected in a young Fellow who looks on himself as the intended Pattern of a large Parish.

Dick

DICK DIGIT is a Student in Law; but has for about two Years last past given himself so much up to the Contemplation of the Heavenly Bodies, that by sitting up of Nights, and lying on his Back upon wet Leads, to observe their Motions, he has almost lost his own, being now little more than an aerial Substance himself. He was first put upon this Pursuit by attending the Lectures of the ingenious and learned Mr. WHISTON, who display'd so much Erudition in that Science, and deduced so many useful Inferences therefrom, as put *Dick* upon considering the Science of Astronomy, as the only Source of all beneficial Knowledge.—Hence Lord *Coke* became neglected, and *Littleton* was displac'd for KEPLER, FLAMSTED, and HALLEY; and an Apartment, which before carried the Face of a pretty deal of Law Business, became as like nothing as the Cave of an ancient Almanack-maker. — Globes, Quadrants, &c. appear'd in every Corner. This new Study has byass'd *Dick* so much in its Favour, that he has for some Months assign'd every common Incident to the Influence of some Heavenly Constellation. Insomuch that we were obliged, either to leave the fixing a Time for our Voyage to him, or of going without him.—Nothing displeases him more than to be called an *Astrologer*; and yet it is the Opinion of most of his Acquaintance, that his present Pursuit tends more to that, than to simple Astronomy.—With this Foible, *Dick* is endued with a tolerable Genius, and a very quick Apprehension; and when his Attention happens to be drawn to Sublunary Things, is not without Humour, has a good Talent at Ridicule, and is never offended with it from others; which Temper has



has been of great Use to him since his Familiarity with the Planets. — His bad Health was a great Motive of his taking so perilous a Voyage; but when he had calculated every Thing, he found necessary, and was satisfied that no great Evil would attend us, he consented to bear us Company, provided he had the Liberty of taking with him a large Trunk, with such Instruments as he should probably want for making the proper Observations during his Journey.

GIL. GLOWORM is sometimes a very pleasant Fellow; but every now and then he is apt to be a little too serious, especially on the Sight of any swaggering Clergymen of the Established Church; which Temper grew upon him by Degrees, after his reading the most celebrated Tracts of our modern Free-Thinkers, but has become a confirmed Habit ever since his joining the Body of the QUAKERS. — He has such a Smartness in his common Conversation, as makes his Company much coveted, and has the peculiar good Quality of behaving with equal Regard to People of all Persuasions. He has an excellent Memory, which, with a great liking for History, has made him an Oracle for every thing relating to what happen'd in the former Ages of the World; only his Partiality for Republican Principles occasions him sometimes to attribute Actions to Publick Wisdom, which flow'd from nothing more than Private Resolution. — He adores *Milton*, which is the chief Reason can be given for his attempting Poetry, in which he succeeds most sadly, though in Prose he generally comes off with much Honour.

TOM

TOM TRIPLET is qualified for a Poet in most Respects, Poverty excepted, which he has no Reason to despair of, since he turns his whole Time to no other Account than that of Rhyming, and is possessed of a Fortune too small to support him without Assistance from his Industry: — He was bred an Apothecary, but on becoming Master of himself, he took Chambers in one of the Inns of Court, dubb'd himself a 'Squire in the first Poem he publish'd, and has not bated of that Title without Displeasure, ever since — He has a little Learning, a pretty deal of Wit, and some Sense; but turns every thing so constantly to Verse, that it is impossible if he continues long in this Humour, he should be able to answer a common Question without tagging the Ends of his Sentence with a Jingle. — Mr. *Triplet* had the most weighty Motives of any of the Company for this Excursion: He said he had already tried his Genius in most Species of Poetry with such Success, that he had the greatest Reason to believe he might excel in Pastoral Writing, provided he could come at a true Notion of Shepherds and Shepherdesses, the Plains and Fountains, &c. of all which he had yet little more Knowledge than he had taken from the Representations of the Stage, or the Descriptions the ancient Poets give of Gods themselves in that Employment. Now he proposes to be a Master of Nature herself, and took with him Books, Pencils, &c. in order to prevent any Thought from slipping his Memory. — One Article we insisted on, That he should not carry with him one Line of his own Writing, which with some Reluctance, he consented to; though at the same Time he told us, that it was unkind to debar him the Pleasure

of reading his Compositions to his Friends, whose Approbation was frequently the only Reward this ungenerous Age allowed the greatest Merit: In consideration of which, we allowed him to carry with him his Poem entitled GOLIAH, which he always writes when he has nothing else to do; imagining himself in no manner of hurry, as he proposes to publish it as a Second Part to GIDEON, which appears too slowly to let this Age hope to see the Whole.

SAM SIPPIT is one of the best natur'd Men living; he has some Learning, though he hates to be forc'd to make use of it, and fames himself quite destitute of Wit, though he is really Master of a great deal. His Good-nature at his first entering into the World, made his Company much sought after; and made him also unwilling to appear obstinate or singular, when he was with those who chose to drink more than he could well dispense with; which in a little Time brought him to the Custom of drinking pretty hard, and to indulge his Appetite more than is convenient for Men of his Age, he being but about 30, tho' the oldest of the Company. This Turn of Temper, however, was of great Benefit to us in our present Adventure; for SAM was appointed Cash-keeper, Steward, and Purveyor in ordinary, for the Expedition: To him was left the entire Management of every thing relating to our Provisions on Board, and our Accommodation at such Ports as we should find it convenient to put in at. — He was well satisfied with the Office allotted him, but insisted that the Vessel should be so big, and so contrived, as to admit a Table, and room to smoke a Pipe without Interruption. — SAM is what is commonly called a *Dry Blade*, and seldom brings out



out a Jest but when there is great need of it, either to silence some loquacious Disturber of Company, to put a Romancer out of Countenance, or to break a Silence of too long Continuance.

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## CHAP. IV.

### *Our Embarkation at Somerset-Stairs, and Danger in Lambeth-Reach.*

**T**WO or three Consultations were held before we agreed with *Dick Digit* in his Proposal of setting out about Seven o'Clock in the Evening, none of us thinking the Business of the Voyage a sufficient Cause for losing the Rest, to which we had been for so many Years accusom'd — *Mr. Triplet* spoke warmly for it, and urg'd the agreeable Surprize which the Morning would bring, by discovering Nature's greatest Beauties, at too great a Distance from Town to be discolour'd by the Tinge of Smoke, which sullies every thing five Miles round it. — *Digit* insisted that the Weather promised the clearest Sky we had had for some Years, and assured us, the Appearance of the celestial Bodies would yield the most transporting Prospect when aided by the Reflection of the Water, uninterrupted with any but natural Vapours. — *Gil Gloworm* declared himself indifferent as to the Time; and *Mr. Mitre* said that as one Motive to this Voyage was a Design of inuring ourselves to Hardships we had not been used to, he thought the undertaking it in the Night might answer that Purpose bet-

ter than by Day. — Mr. *Sippit* declared that a Pipe relish'd better by half at Night than in the Day-time, and that as he expected little other Diversion, he could entertain himself with that very well till Morning, when he design'd to take a Nap. This expressed such Contempt of what *Triplet's* Head was full of, that he could not help taking Notice of it; but *Sippit* smil'd at him, and told him, that though he knew the Muses were very early Ladies, yet as he had no Favour to beg of them, surely he might be excused from attending their Levee.

THIS and all other Preliminaries being settled, to our mutual Satisfaction, it was resolv'd to go on board our Ship the third Day of *March*, 1737-8, at Half an Hour after Six in the Evening; which was precisely conform'd to by all but *Dick Digit*.

WHEN the Clock struck Seven, the Tide coming up with a strong Current, we weighed Anchor, or loos'd Rope, I know not well which is the most proper Phrase, and took leave of a Land we had scarce before ever lost Sight of, except Mr. *Mitre*, who laugh'd at the Concern which appeared in the Countenances of Mr. *Sippit* and myself, who found ourselves a little sick on going under a sort of Deck with which our Ship was provided; — the Wind blowing fresh at N. W. our Seamen hoisted Sail, which caused a short Debate between *Glo-worm* and *Triplet* concerning the Pressure of Air, and the Possibility of perfecting the so often attempted Wind Waggon. — In the Interim coming up to the Wild-Fire Engine of the *York-Buildings* Company, Mr. *Mitre* utter'd some warm Breathings against Projectors in general

neral, and those Gentlemen in particular, for attempting in vain what at *Newcastle* has been practised many Years with never-failing Success: While this was discourfing, we were alarm'd by a Huzza from the Land, which was answer'd by all the Mariners we had on Board; and upon asking the Occasion, we were answer'd that we had just then pass'd by *New Palace Yard*, where the Bridge was intended to have been built, but that Providence was kinder than to suffer it: We chose not to reply to them, being sensible of the Difficulty of convincing a Man's Reason against his Interest; but Mr. *Glowworm* said, he did not remember to have met with a more remarkable Instance of the Phrensy which actuates a Mob, than to hear them cry against a Design, which must naturally conduce to the Honour and Advantage of the whole Nation, and the Damage of few or none; *Sippit* lear'd at him, and said, that whatever Advantages might accrue from it, it had convinc'd him that Castles were not the only Buildings erected in the Air. This occasion'd an Enquiry into the Means by which Bridges were erected by our Ancestors; since we in general agreed that had the building them formerly been attended with as many Difficulties as occur in our Days, we must have had Ferries much more generally in use than they now are. And after several Interruptions from Mr. *Sippit*, Mr. *Glowworm* clearly demonstrated, that the Expedition with which publick Buildings in general were erected in past Ages, was owing to the immediate Vassalage and Dependance of the Vulgar on their Superiors, which did not admit of Disobedience to their Commands; and concluded with observing that the Difficulties Mr.

*Sippit*



*Sippit* alluded to, were far preferable to having the Burden imposed on a *few*, though they could be no more than *Common Sharers* of the Benefits arising from their separate Labours.

BEFORE Mr. *Gloworm* had well ended, we found a quicker Agitation of our Ship, and the Waves roll'd with more Noise and Impetuosity; we were told not to be under any Apprehension, for that in the calmest Weather there was a Roughness in that Place, which was call'd *Lambeth Reach*: Upon this, *Gloworm* contracted his Muscles, and peeping out, pull'd in his Head and said, he thought we were near the Archiepiscopal Palace by the rising of the Water; Mr. *Mitre* took this to be a slight Fling at the Church, and reply'd that her Rising was no way owing to *his* Brethren, who had long vainly strove to reduce her to their own Power. *Gil* said he was sorry if he had given him any Offence, and wish'd nothing more than the Prosperity of all Christians who are sincere in what they profess; but begg'd he might not indulge himself in the too prevalent Clerical Error of fancying himself wounded by any Cane that hits the remotest Corner of a Parochial Building; for, said he, you should consider, Sir, you have often been told that we are at a prodigious annual Expence to support the Gentlemen of the Cloth, and you should at least allow us to talk freely concerning them, which even the old Proverb vindicates, by saying that *Losers have leave to speak* — It is impossible you can lose by the Clergy, said Mr. *Mitre*, when you never pay more than they have a Right to demand, tho' perhaps that is more than you are willing to part with: — As willing, reply'd *Gloworm*, you may suppose me to pay that,

that, as you would be to pay a Barber you never shav'd with.

THEY were interrupted in the Pursuit of their Argument by the approach of a small Vessel, which pointed directly at us, which *Triplet* observed with no small Concern, asking the Seamen if Pyrates ever carous'd on this Shore? But we soon dissipated his Fears, by acquainting him, that it was nobody but Mr. *Digit* making all possible Sail to overtake us — they soon haled us, and finding them Friends we *lay-by*, as I think they call it, till they came up;—but certainly no Ship-wreck'd Mariner ever stood in more want of Assistance! *Dick* being asham'd at failing an Appointment made by himself, had run the most imminent Danger to reach us, having put up a Sail in one of the small Wherries, and sat amidst the Lashing of Waves and Wind, so as to be as wet as if he had been overset: — We insisted immediately on knowing the Cause of his Delay, which he said was owing to his being disappointed in a Workman to reset his Six-Foot Telescope: — *Sam Sippit* on hearing this, shook his Head, and fill'd him a full Glass of Brandy, telling him that would enable him to see farther than all the Telescopes in *Christendom*. — *Gil Gloworm* and *Triplet* took his Apparatus into our Vessel, the latter of whom laugh'd immoderately on finding a fine Celestial Globe, which was too bulky to go into his Trunk, entirely defaced by the Wet.

## CHAP. V.

*Our Voyage from Lambeth to Vaux-hall;  
with a Quotation on Ridotto's Al Fresco.*

NIGHT now began to assume her Empire, and for her Harbinger sent a gentle shower of Rain, whose lambient Drops gently murmur'd o'er our Heads with a somniferous Symphony, which insensibly lull'd us into a profound Silence, and drew our Attention wholly to the Noise which the Motion of our Ship, and the little Tempest, as we were willing to fancy it, afforded us: *Sippit* said, the Damp around us being much more than we were ever accustomed to, he was certain an uncommon Heat within was necessary to repel its Attacks, and filled himself a Half-pint Glass of *Port*; But none of us chose to follow his Example. *Mr. Mitre* saying, with much Gravity, that in case of Danger, the clearer our Heads the better, it being frequently more owing to Drinking than any thing else, that People lose their Lives on the Water: This occasioned a Dissertation on violent Deaths, especially on the *Art of Drowning*, in the Theory of which *Mr. Digit* seem'd to excel: — *Triplet* said, he knew not any Accident could furnish so fine a Subject for a Virgin's Lament, as that of her Lover's Corpse floating in her Sight; here, said he, she may be allowed to give a Loose to her Passion, and may paint her Fondness in the strongest Colours, without transgressing the Modesty of the Sex; for the Force of her Distress will apologise



logise for the warmest Breathings of Affection :  
 — *Gloworm* said, all this might be true: but yet he should rather chuse to move her Lamentation in any other manner.

By this time, we were told that *Vaux-ball* was on the opposite Shore ; on which *Mitre* said, he was sorry it was not at a much greater Distance, for his Uncle had told him, that staying out at Night never was so generally practised by the Fair-Sex, as since those Nocturnal Recreations had brought it into Fashion ; and, added he, I have three Cousins, who have been so tenderly brought up, as to catch Cold twice, by coming home on Foot from a Lecture about Eight o'Clock in a dry Evening ; who, I have been assured, have come home at Eleven from hence in a Boat without a Covering, through a violent Shower of Rain, without suffering any Interruption to their Health. This was followed by several Remarks on the same Subject ; and was concluded by *Gil Gloworm's* reading to us a small Essay lately published, written, as he told us, by an Author whose Writings on useful or humorous Subjects would gain him the Attention of the best Judges of the Age, were it not for a certain *Political Ague* which frequently seizes him, and encrusts all his other amiable Qualifications. — It is so very pertinent in this Place, that I must beg Leave to insert so much of it here as *Gil* read, and with which he seemed mightily delighted.

“ If Antiquity could sanctify a Diversion, as  
 “ sometimes it has done Doctrines, we might  
 “ boldly pronounce the *Ridotto Al Fresco* the  
 “ First Diversion in the World : It was at one  
 “ of these, in the very Infancy of Things, that  
 “ *Eve* lost her Innocence ; at a *Ridotto*, by  
 E “ rashly

“ rashly trusting her own Wit against that of  
 “ the Serpent, she undid herself and her Pos-  
 “ terity. A very learned Divine has been  
 “ pleased to acquaint the World with their  
 “ Conference; how he come by it, I know  
 “ not; but I dare say, if a Layman had ven-  
 “ tured on such a thing in Prose, he would  
 “ have run the Hazard of being thought one of  
 “ *Beelzebub's* Confidants: But all things are  
 “ lawful to some Men. The Licence of Poe-  
 “ try taking away the Restrictions which bind  
 “ up an Historian, hath allowed two of the  
 “ finest Writers in our Language to adorn this  
 “ Subject with all the Pomp of Numbers, and  
 “ all the Harmony of Verse. The Reader  
 “ will easily discern I mean *Milton* and *Dryden*:  
 “ Yet am I fully persuaded, that neither the  
 “ grand Description in the *Paradise Lost*, nor  
 “ the fine Lines in the *Fall of Man*, can make  
 “ a Person in his right Senses fond of the Scene,  
 “ or permit him to be entertained with *Paradise*  
 “ itself, while he is there with such Company.  
 “ I will not enter into a Dispute with the  
 “ Criticks, whether *Dinah*, the Daughter of  
 “ *Jacob*, was debauched at a *Ridotto*, or *Dan-*  
 “ *cing-Bout*; this I am certain of, that the De-  
 “ scendants of *Jacob* had like to have paid dear  
 “ for going to the *Ridotto's* of the *Midianites*:  
 “ The crafty old Soothsayer *Balaam* thought,  
 “ by playing the H—r, to earn the Wages of  
 “ Unrighteousness, and make his Friends a-  
 “ mends for his having blest their Enemies,  
 “ when they sent for him to curse them. His  
 “ Scheme, in short, was this; he got the finest  
 “ Women in *Midian* to invite the young *He-*  
 “ *brews* to a *Ridotto*; where when they had  
 “ sung and danced, and eat and drank, they  
 “ were

“ were for sleeping also with the Ladies; a  
 “ Favour not denied them when by way of  
 “ Probation they had gone through some ido-  
 “ latrous Ceremonies which their Mistresses  
 “ taught them to practise; but a Plague fol-  
 “ lowed these Junquettings; and *Phineas* stands  
 “ recorded for his Heroic Zeal, in striking a  
 “ Hebrew of Quality and a *Midianitish* Princess  
 “ through with his Spear.

“ Among the antient *Assyrians*, we have  
 “ Reason to think that *Ridotto's* were much in  
 “ Fashion; and, if the History of *Berosus* had  
 “ not perish'd, we should probably have found  
 “ therein the Improvements made in these Di-  
 “ versions by *Sardanapalus*; as it is, we know  
 “ that the last *Assyrian* Monarch lost his Capi-  
 “ tal while himself and his Nobles, his Queens  
 “ and his Concubines, were regaling themselves  
 “ at the *Ridotto Al Fresco* in the *Penfile* Gar-  
 “ dens; where *Cyrus* at last disturbed them,  
 “ and made the King close his long Feast with  
 “ an everlasting Sleep.

“ ONE of the antientest Pieces of History  
 “ known to the *Greeks*, was the Expedition  
 “ of *Bacchus* into the *Indies*; and what went  
 “ he there for? Why, only to celebrate a *Ri-  
 “ dotto Al Fresco*, and leave it to be imitated  
 “ by Posterity: Himself and his Companions  
 “ went almost naked, a Wreath of Ivy on  
 “ their Heads, their Spears adorned with the  
 “ Tendrils of the Vine; but I need not par-  
 “ ticularly describe so celebrated a Scene; the  
 “ *Bacchanalian March* adorned the Vases of the  
 “ antient *Romans*; and we have it over and  
 “ over depicted and explained in the celebrated  
 “ Collection of *Grævius* and *Gronovius*.



“ AT *Athens* they had *Ridotto's* once a Year,  
 “ under the Title of *Adonia* ; in them they ce-  
 “ lebrated, first the death of *Adonis*, the Pa-  
 “ ramour of *Venus*, with all the Outcries of an  
 “ *Irish* Funeral. Then followed all the Mad-  
 “ ness of a *Cornish Wake* : Musick there was,  
 “ and Feasting, with all the other Concomi-  
 “ tants of extravagant Luxury, which some  
 “ People mistake for Politeness : Yet it is said,  
 “ that even these *Ridotto's* give way to the  
 “ *Cotyttia*, a nocturnal Festival, sacred to the  
 “ Goddess *Cotyto*, the Inventress of *Ridotto's*,  
 “ and held to preside over Wantonness. The  
 “ *Athenians*, *Corinthians*, *Cbians*, and *Thra-*  
 “ *cians*, in their several Turns, were zealous  
 “ Votaries to this Goddess. The *Roman* Poet  
 “ *Juvenal*, was so impious as to ridicule  
 “ these Rites ; and indeed the grave *Plutarch*  
 “ tells us, that in his Time the *Free-Thinkers*  
 “ had made a *Votary to Cotytto*, and a *Debau-*  
 “ *chee*, synonymous Terms. Even the serious  
 “ *Spartans* had *Ridotto's*, at which the marri-  
 “ ed Women, Maids, Children, and Servants,  
 “ feasted promiscuously : And *Arbenaus* tells  
 “ us, that the Women took this Opportunity to  
 “ drag old Batchelors round a certain Altar,  
 “ beating them all the while with their Fists ;  
 “ that if no other Motives would induce them  
 “ to marry, the Ignominy they were exposed  
 “ to at these Times might compel them to it.  
 “ AT *Rome*, if I understand *Salust* right,  
 “ *Cataline* had his *Ridotto's*, and made it one  
 “ of the grand Arguments for the Destruction  
 “ of the *Roman* State, that, except it could be  
 “ brought about, he should be obliged to lay  
 “ down his Assemblies. Whether the Myste-  
 “ ries of the *Bona Dea* were, or were not *Ri-*  
 “ dotto's,

dotto's, I am not thoroughly satisfied. After the Fall of the Republic, as the Glory of Rome declined, the Magnificence of its Shews increased. The *Ridotto's* of *Nero* and *Helio-gabalus* are particularly famous; but then they were Things for which the *Traians* and *Antonines* had no Taste: All who were fond of the old *Roman* Spirit, were declared Enemies to these expensive Entertainments, and were such Humorists, that they entertained themselves after Supper, with moral Discourses, and went to Bed quite sober all the Year round.

In *France*, that Land of Politeness, from whence our Shews and our Dress have come to us time out of mind, Tilts, Turnaments, and *Ridotto's*, were anciently much in Fashion; but all these Diversions have grown there long ago out of Date. It is said that Tilting was abolished, because a King of *France* was killed in Earnest, when he fought in Jest. If I might be allowed a Conjecture, I should lay it down that *Ridotto's* had been disused ever since the Massacre at *Paris*, which was a *Ridotto Al Fresco* with a Vengeance, and will go near to be remembered as long as there are Protestants upon the Earth.

Our own Country has the Honour to boast of the most innocent *Ridotto* I have met with any Account of in all my Reading; I mean the celebrated Entertainment of that Kind devised by the *Kentish Men* in the Days of *William the Conqueror*. The *Men of Kent* being under some Apprehensions that a *Norman Prince* might abrogate Privileges he did not understand, bethought them-

“ themselves of procuring a Confirmation of  
 “ them, by exhibiting a Ridotto : In order to  
 “ this, some twenty thousand of them having  
 “ cut down each a large Branch of a Tree,  
 “ marched in solemn Order, till they had sud-  
 “ denly surrounded the Conqueror and his  
 “ Guards. He was either so well or so ill  
 “ pleased at the Sight, that he sent these *Kentish*  
 “ Clowns safe home again ; he granted them  
 “ all they desired ; and, considering the Ad-  
 “ vantages reaped from this Adventure, we  
 “ may justly wonder Ridotto's are not more  
 “ in Fashion in *Kent*. The Cause however  
 “ may be guessed ; their Humour of wearing  
 “ plain grey Coats, and their affecting no  
 “ higher Title than *Yeoman* with a Thousand  
 “ a-year, shew they have something else to do  
 “ than to divert themselves, except upon ex-  
 “ traordinary Occasions, to conquer a Conqueror,  
 “ or so ; for then the *Men of Kent* are found to  
 “ be as brisk as their Neighbours.

“ In *Melvin's Memoirs*, we have a Story of a  
 “ *Scotch Ridotto*, and a most extraordinary  
 “ Story it is : He tells us that King *James VI.*  
 “ having narrowly escaped Shipwreck in com-  
 “ ing from *Denmark*, it was suspected the Storm  
 “ was raised by Witches, and upon a strict En-  
 “ quiry it was found to be even so. When  
 “ these Witches and Wizards came to be strict-  
 “ ly examined as to what induced them to  
 “ part with Soul, Body, and Fame, they con-  
 “ fessed they had no other Bribe than a *Ridotto*  
 “ *Al Fresco*, with which the Devil was wont to  
 “ entertain them once a Week on a wide Plain,  
 “ where after eating, drinking, and dancing to  
 “ a Bag-pipe, they had the Honour of kissing  
 “ his Posteriors, which put an End to the  
 “ Evening's



“ Evening’s Entertainment. If I can depend  
“ upon my Memory, there is also at the End  
“ of the best Edition of *Glanvil upon Witches*,  
“ a most authentick *Swedish* Relation to the  
“ same Purpose.

“ To take leave of History, and to enter a  
“ little into the Merit of these sort of Diver-  
“ sions; it is most certain that such kind of  
“ Public Pleasures as suit best with the Genius  
“ of a People, and the Soil and Climate of  
“ your Country, have the best Right to En-  
“ couragement. In the *Northern* Countries,  
“ where it is absolutely necessary for all De-  
“ grees of People to acquire a robust Constitu-  
“ tion, Scating, going in Sledges on the Snow  
“ and Ice, and other violent Exercises, are  
“ commonly, and with good Reason practised.  
“ But I believe these were never thought of in  
“ *Italy*; there the excessive Heat of the Day  
“ makes Evening and Night the Seasons of  
“ Pleasure; and the rigid Restraint the Ladies  
“ generally live under, makes *Masquerades* now  
“ and then reasonable Diversions. In our  
“ Country, where, Thanks to Providence,  
“ neither Cold or Heat is very excessive, to  
“ introduce the Diversions of *Sweden* or of *Ve-*  
“ *nice*, is not improving Taste, but deviating  
“ from Nature. The Evenings here are plea-  
“ sant and wholesome for an Hour or two af-  
“ ter Sun-set, but later, and in the Neighbour-  
“ hood of Water, I fancy they that seek Di-  
“ version will be in danger of paying pretty  
“ dear for it. Besides, the open honest Free-  
“ dom which the *British* Ladies have ever en-  
“ joy’d, seems to render *Masquerades* and noc-  
“ turnal Assemblies altogether preposterous.  
“ The new Turn our Publick Pleasures have  
“ taken

“ taken of late Years, may not only give the  
 “ Spleen to a *British* Critick, but afford some  
 “ Uneasiness also to a *British* Politician, and  
 “ therefore I wonder some of our Patriot Wits  
 “ never thought of handling this Subject. If  
 “ I have trespassed on their Province in my  
 “ Manner of treating it, I hope their Negli-  
 “ gence will excuse me: For my own part, in  
 “ serious and in gay Discourses, I would have  
 “ the Love of my Country appear my ruling  
 “ Passion, as I would no more stoop to recom-  
 “ mend Effeminacy in Publick Diversions,  
 “ than Corruption in the Management of Pub-  
 “ lick Affairs.”

## CHAP. VI.

*We sail from Vaux-hall to Chelsea-Reach;  
 with a Dissertation on War, and the  
 Use and Abuse of a Wooden Leg.*

**M**R. Gloworm had scarce done reading, when  
 our Vessel began to roll more than when  
 we were opposite *Lambeth* Palace: Mr. Sippit  
 said, he thoroughly repented coming in the  
 Night, for he did not know any thing would  
 displease him more than being drown'd in the  
 dark. — *Digit* being now pretty well come to  
 himself, assured him there was no Danger,  
 and said he apprehended, (and then put his Head  
 out with a profound Solemnity) from what he  
 could observe in the Sky, we were either in, or  
 at least not far from *Chelsea-Reach*; to which  
 our Mariners assented. Mr. Mitre said, he  
 thought it a great Happiness to the Nation, that  
 there was a Provision for such as were worn

out

out in its Defence either by Sea or Land: *Sippit* shrug'd up his Shoulders, and pulling his Pipe out of his Mouth, said, were none admitted there but such as were worn out in our Defence, I believe the Apartments would not be so constantly supply'd: — *Gloworm* added, that it was his Opinion they did as much Service after their Admission into that Hospital as before; very probably, reply'd Mr. *Mitre*, that may be the Sentiment of your Brethren, who declare against carnal Weapons on any Occasion, and would rather see the Nation subdued, than run the Hazard of their Lives: — *Gloworm* made answer, That should a Time come when Assistance is wanted from the Subjects in general, he would venture to promise for his Brethren the *Quakers*, they would repair to the Field of Battle much faster than his future Brethren the *Clergy*, who being properly the Servants of the Publick, as maintained by Publick Contributions, were more immediately interested in its Defence than those who depend solely on themselves for Support; the Propriety of which Argument, no doubt, said he, prevailed with the present excellent Empress of *Russia*, to send her *Ecclesiastical Regiment* against the *Turks*, under Count *Munich*; where they have an Opportunity given them of shewing the Sincerity of their Instructions to others, by their own Conformity thereto. *Triplet* interposed here with asking, who now possessed the Place of Wooden-Leg-maker to that Hospital? — *Sippit*, after a Pause, said, he believed the Title was extinct; and that the very Art would be lost, were it not for an Instance or two, which sometimes is consequent upon an *amicable Skirmish* at home; *Triplet* answered, he could



not see how the Business in general should decrease; since tho' the Call for *entire Limbs* was much lessen'd, yet the Demand for *Calves* had lately very much increased; could the want of which but once be rated a necessary Qualification for that Charity, he was persuaded the Candidates would be more numerous than ever.

— *Sippit* said, that were so small a Loss as that of the Calf of the Leg made a Term of Admission, he would move for the *Loss of one's Breecbes* being considered in the same Light, since it is what has befallen *fine* Soldiers before now, and renders a Man very unfit for a Martial Attack.

DURING this Discourse we were told, that we passed by *New Cuckold's Point*: But on finding we had not a married Man among us, we lost the usual Diversion on that Head; which *Mitre* said was a most irrational Custom, because it was always tending to blame a Person whom the very supposed Occasion of Ridicule considers at most, only as a *passive Agent*.

WE had not sailed far from hence, before on a sudden our Ship struck on a Sand: Upon this Mr. *Sippit* turn'd pale, and told Mr. *Digit* that he was afraid his Calculations were not to be depended on by Water, however certain they might be upon firm Land: *Digit* reply'd, that he had not undertaken to be our Pilot, but thought, from the nature of the Shock, that we had run ashore on some Island rather than any hidden Sand; so that taking proper Cautions for our Safety, he did not fear but we should preserve our Lives. — And pray, said *Sippit*, how must we get our Provisions ashore? — In the Interim, our Senior Navigator came to us, and in as complaisant a manner as he was able,

able, hoped we would not take it amiss, but his Comrades would, in spite of all he could say to the contrary, run us ashore at this Place, called *Battersea*, in order to have the good Company cut for the *Simples*, (if I remember the Term right) for never having been so far that way before: *Dick Digit* look'd very surly, and said, that he thought it was not his Place to insult his Guests; and *Sippit* said, he was much afraid our Arrival there now, would add but little to our Wisdom, since the running ashore had broke two Bottles of our Red Wine; of which, at first, said he, I provided too small a Quantity for the Weather we have met with. *Mitre* and *Triplet* enquired very narrowly into the Original of this Custom, but got no Answer to their Satisfaction; upon which *Gloworm* said, Customs of this kind frequently brought considerable Advantages to Places where not one Inhabitant could give any Account of their Rise, tho' every Day reaping Profit from their Continuance. — After a general Consultation, it was agreed to sup at this Port, either on the Provisions we had on board, or at the best House of Entertainment we could meet with: To the latter of which our Steward insisted on our Compliance, on Account of the Scarcity of Provisions he apprehended on board, and the Refreshment he promised us, on smoking a serious Pipe before a good Fire on firm Land: We all consented to this, but our Sailors begg'd we might not loose more time than was necessary, that we might have the Benefit of the Tide as far as we could.

HEREUPON we all went on Shore, and supp'd at what was recommended to us as the best Publick House in the Place, where our

Eatables were not to be complain'd of, but the Liquors of all kinds intollerable, which made our Stay shorter than it would otherwise have been; to the no small Mortification of Mr. *Sippit*. The Reckoning being called, *Sippit* defray'd the Charge, put the Bill in his Pocket-Cafe, and led us out, expressing all the way to the Water-side, a strong Inclination to have us lodge in this Town till Morning, when he said we might proceed on our Voyage with more Pleasure, and infinitely greater Safety: But this Advice being contrary to the very Design of our Expedition, not one would acquiesce in it, and we all resumed our Seats, except Mr. *Digit*, who begg'd we would excuse his leaving us sometime the remaining Part of the Night, because the Weather now began to promise a very clear Sky, and he hoped to make some useful Remarks before Day-light, if the Motion of the Vessel did not prevent him.

WHILE we were at Supper, several Peace-Officers entered the House, and took the Maid-Servant into Custody, in order to force a Confession of the Father of a Child, with which it was thought she had not many days to go. When the Master, who accompanied her to the Justice, return'd, we ask'd him who she had named? He answered, in a sort of Rage, a Fellow whom she had never seen more than twice; and, as he said, she had always behaved with the greatest Modesty that could be, he inveighed heavily against her on this Occasion. — When we had again weigh'd Anchor, and got under full Sail, we talk'd some time on this Accident, and Mr. *Triplet* said, that tho' in common Conversation it reflected but little Honour on the Lovers to hear their Story told; yet,



yet, put in the same Language, with Actions of the same nature committed by the Great, it would not offend the nicest Ear: For a Trial of his Skill, we desired he would tell it in the manner he meant. He was mighty glad of this Opportunity of displaying his Genius, and immediately took out his Common-place Book, and, as well as the rolling of our Ship, and the Interruption he met with from our speaking would admit, wrote as follows; which was read by *Gil Gloworm*.

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### C H A P. VII.

*The History of the beautiful RAPASIA,  
or BLACK BAB of Battersea.*

By Mr. *TRIPLET*.

“**R**APASIA was born of a Father who  
 “ took Pleasure in employing his leisure  
 “ Moments in the Culture and Improvement of  
 “ the vegetable World; not a Flower of any  
 “ remarkable Beauty, but he was well acquaint-  
 “ ed with the best Methods of producing it;  
 “ or a Plant or Herb possessed of any desirable  
 “ Virtue, which he knew not how to obtain;  
 “ and as his successful Labours of this kind af-  
 “ forded more than sufficient Store for his own  
 “ Use, he very frequently spared from his  
 “ Abundance for the Use of others, which he  
 “ transported in small Vessels to the neigh-  
 “ bouring City; where they were exposed to  
 “ Sale in the publick Marts, for the Relief of  
 “ such as by their Confinement in the busier  
 “ Scenes

“ Scenes of Life, are debarred the Pleasures of  
 “ a rural Retirement, and unable to supply  
 “ themselves with any of the Health-giving  
 “ Fruits of the Earth. — He was married  
 “ when very young, to a Lady who chiefly  
 “ busied herself in returning to the snowy Pro-  
 “ duction of the Heaven-born Lamb its for-  
 “ mer Whiteness, when sullied by the inhospita-  
 “ ble Usage it frequently meets with from  
 “ Persons unskill’d in the great Art display’d  
 “ in its first Formation, and the Curiosity of  
 “ its Texture for the various Purposes to which  
 “ it is assign’d: Their mutual and untainted  
 “ Love, produced only RAPASIA a Virgin  
 “ more beautiful than the Daughter of the Oce-  
 “ an, and innocent as *Asteria*; when she at-  
 “ tained the Age of Twenty-one, she was ad-  
 “ dressed with so much Importunity by the  
 “ Youth of the neighbouring Plains, that her  
 “ watchful Parents consented, for her greater  
 “ Security, that she should remove from their  
 “ Abode, to that of a trusty Friend not many  
 “ Leagues distant, where she would probably  
 “ be freed from the incessant Petitions of her  
 “ sighing Adorers, and become a little more  
 “ acquainted with the World, it being this  
 “ Gentleman’s great Delight to refresh and  
 “ entertain Strangers with all those Necessaries  
 “ they were deprived of, by being, at a Dis-  
 “ tance from their own Habitations. —  
 “ The lovely RAPASIA display’d such a Rea-  
 “ diness to assist him in accommodating the  
 “ Personages who repaired to his House, that  
 “ he settled upon her an Income sufficient to  
 “ prevent her wanting any Assistance from her  
 “ lamenting Parents, to whom her Absence  
 “ was almost insupportable. — It was here  
 “ she

“ she was seen by the noble DOLPHINO, a Youth  
“ in whose Formation Nature had exhausted  
“ her choicest Stores; he was now of that Age  
“ when Love reigns triumphant over the vari-  
“ ous other Passions of the human Mind. —  
“ His Person was graceful, and he would have  
“ been endowed with a commanding Pre-  
“ sence, had not his well-turned Shoulders a  
“ little inclined to stoop, which was owing to  
“ his constant Custom of plowing the chrystal  
“ Streams of the wealthy *Tbames* with a sort of  
“ Shaft or Trident, not unlike what the Com-  
“ panions of *Jason* used in the *Argonautick* Ex-  
“ pedition : — A frequent Repetition of this  
“ heroick Exercise, settled in his Cheeks a  
“ Manly Roughness of Colour, which seldom  
“ fails to please the Eyes of the most cautious  
“ Fair-ones : When he entered the Room, RA-  
“ PASIA found in her Heart that Perturba-  
“ tion to which she had hitherto been an entire  
“ Stranger ; her rosy Cheeks exchanged its ad-  
“ mired Red, for the Paleness of the lifeless  
“ Lilly ; and her radiant Eyes, which but the  
“ Moment before, darted like a Sun-beam on  
“ every amaz’d Beholder, became languid as  
“ departing Light : Her snowy Bosom rose with  
“ unequal Breathings, and her tender Joints de-  
“ nied their usual Assistance, and it was with  
“ the utmost Hazard of falling, she retired to  
“ a Couch in an Apartment adjoining. —  
“ DOLPHINO, who ever had the greatest Com-  
“ plaisance for the Fair-Sex upon all Occasi-  
“ ons, perceiving her Confusion, and being,  
“ alas ! too willing to guess the fatal Cause,  
“ speedily followed her : When he entered the  
“ Room where she was, hardly had her fleet-  
“ ing Senses re-sumed their usual Functions :

“ — The



“ — The Sight of him struck her with the utmost  
 “ Consternation, which for some time rendered  
 “ her incapable of speaking ; but recovering  
 “ herself a little, she said, (with a Sweetness  
 “ and Address peculiar to herself) I am at the  
 “ utmost Loss, Sir, to know what could em-  
 “ bolden you to this ill-timed Intrusion ? —  
 “ I must beg your Absence immediately, or  
 “ take such other Measures as will remove you  
 “ hence. — DOLPHINO, (with an Inconcern  
 “ at her Resentment, which from a beloved  
 “ Object oftner gives Pleasure than it offends,)  
 “ fell at her Feet, praised her Beauty, and  
 “ declared his Readiness to obey her, had not  
 “ the enchanting Melody of her Voice had  
 “ more Force to retain him, than her Words  
 “ to make him leave her : In short, he vowed  
 “ himself her unfeign’d Admirer, and protested  
 “ never more to rise till her fair hand gave  
 “ him its Assistance. — Protestations of this  
 “ kind are too prevalent when the Person to  
 “ whom they are said, wishes them sincere :  
 “ — She raised him from the Ground with a  
 “ Modesty which added yet more Charms to  
 “ her returning Beauties ; on which he took  
 “ the Freedom eagerly to embrace her, with  
 “ Declarations of the most disinterested and  
 “ tender Affection : — She strove to get from  
 “ him, but strove with such Confusion and In-  
 “ terruption of Tears, as testify’d her Inclina-  
 “ tion was more to remain where she was :  
 “ DOLPHINO observed this with Transport,  
 “ and while her own Innocence of Intention  
 “ suffered her not to doubt the Integrity of one  
 “ whom she loved, he took Advantage of her  
 “ fervent Affection for him, and took some  
 “ Liberties which never accompany a real  
 “ Regard :

“ Regard: Of this she was going to express  
“ her Resentment, when he hastily caught her  
“ in his Arms, threw her on the Couch, and  
“ possessed himself of that Treasure of Charms,  
“ which numberless Swains of distinguish’d  
“ Merit had long sought in vain.

“ RAPASIA reflected with great Anxiety on  
“ this Adventure; and was so captivated with  
“ her dear DOLPHINO, that her Reason seem-  
“ ed almost totally dispossessed of an Empire  
“ over which it had hitherto reign’d with un-  
“ contested Sway. — The Day which was  
“ appointed for their next Meeting, was by her  
“ expected with all the Impatience which the  
“ most fervent Desire can inspire, and which  
“ can only be conceived by those who have ex-  
“ perience it. Before the smiling Sun began  
“ his diurnal Rotation, the wakeful RAPASIA  
“ hastened from her restless Pillow to the lonely  
“ Beach, looking with eager Eyes towards the  
“ Coast from whence she expected her beloved  
“ DOLPHINO: And her fervent Wishes could  
“ not help chiding the slow-flowing Flood, for  
“ not changing its tedious Course on an Occa-  
“ sion which, in her bewildered Eyes, appeared  
“ more than sufficient Cause to reverse the  
“ Laws of Nature; the Stream, by a sym-  
“ thetick Murmur in some Measure alleviated  
“ her Grief, while the briny Current from her  
“ Eyes seemed to rival the purling Tide, by  
“ its Transparency, and the Increase of its  
“ Torrent: Every Sail that presented itself to  
“ her View, raised her Hope to an immode-  
“ rate Height; and whenever it passed by the  
“ Place at which he was to Land, her Ex-  
“ pectation was succeeded by the dreadful Fear  
“ of a Disappointment, which is disagreeable

“ in all Circumstances, but in Love is past en-  
 “ during. — At length her piercing Eye  
 “ caught the long-wish’d-for Bark; elated by  
 “ the Prospect, she flew from the bending Cliff,  
 “ to wait its arrival on the chearful Shore;  
 “ when he pointed his Vessel to the Land, her  
 “ impetuous Heart drew her so far to meet him,  
 “ that her beauteous Feet were in the friendly  
 “ Wave before she knew it; and had not DOL-  
 “ PHINO catch’d her in his Arms, and pull’d  
 “ her on board, it is to be questioned whether  
 “ she might not have rush’d so far to reach him,  
 “ as to endanger a Life he only could make  
 “ desirable. — He quickly handed her under his  
 “ Pavilion, where he indulged himself in all  
 “ the Pleasures which the Possession of a Lady  
 “ inferior to none, in respect either to the  
 “ Beauties of her Face, Body, or Mind, can  
 “ yield the Man she loves. — Before *Phæbus*  
 “ had gain’d his Meridian, they parted; and  
 “ she with slow-advancing Steps and reluctant  
 “ Heart, ascended the tiresome Spray, which  
 “ a few Hours before she sprang down almost  
 “ without touching: — Some Months  
 “ after, the fair *RAPASIA* found such Symp-  
 “ toms as convinced her of her Pregnancy:  
 “ Now, and not before, she saw the melanchol-  
 “ ly Consequence of her unbounded Love:  
 “ Horror star’d her in the Face, and Ruin  
 “ and Contempt presented themselves perpetu-  
 “ ally to her View! Her blinded Passion had  
 “ not allowed her time to ask her dear Deceiver  
 “ either his Name or any one Question that  
 “ gave the least Probability of her being able to  
 “ see him again: This Consideration contribu-  
 “ ted much to her Shame; and none could be  
 “ more sensible of her Indiscretion herein than  
 “ herself:



“ herself : Her now returning Virtue blushed  
 “ immoderately on the Reflection of her guilty  
 “ Fall, and her boding Heart dreaded the  
 “ Discovery of her Crime more than Death. —  
 “ It was not long before she found, by the  
 “ cool Treatment she met with from those  
 “ who used to behave to her with the most ten-  
 “ der Regard, that her Misfortune was no  
 “ longer a Secret to those around her : On this  
 “ she was struck with deep Remorse : but when  
 “ she was asked to produce the Father of her  
 “ future Babe, and saw that the best Account  
 “ she could give was regarded only as an Eva-  
 “ sion of the Truth, she abandoned herself to  
 “ Sorrow and Despair: Oh ! unthinking Wretch!  
 “ where shall I find Pity, or whither shall I  
 “ fly for Compassion ! — In the midst of  
 “ which heart-melting Soliloquy, entered the  
 “ ——— Overseer and two Constables, who  
 “ took her away.”

## CHAP. VIII.

*Continues our Voyage, through many Dan-  
 gers, to Richmond; and concludes with  
 a Panegyric on Burnt Claret, by Mr.  
 Sippit.*

**M**R. MITRE expressed a great Approbation  
 of Triplet's Performance, but said, he  
 must own he should have been better pleased if  
 he had concluded in the Style of the whole Piece:  
 Triplet said, that was indeed his Intention;  
 but he found Parish-Officers of a Nature so in-  
 congruous to an amorous History, that he was

glad to escape the Trouble of heroizing them ; especially as both his Pen and Patience were tired with Protraction long before he drew near his Conclusion. During Mr. *Glowworm's* reading the foregoing History, Mr. *Sippit* stole a Nap ; tho' he was willing to have his Sleep taken for a profound Silence ; in order for which, whenever the tacking of our Ship, or any other Accident rous'd him a little, he would re-place himself with a significant Nod, accompanied with saying, *very pretty indeed !* or some other Expression of as drowsy a Tendency. — He being now fast a-sleep, became the Subject of our next Conversation ; for the Reader will observe, during the Night, we have nothing to acquaint him with but what pass'd among ourselves : *Mitre* entertain'd us some time with the Description and Offices of the Eye-lid ; while *Digit* came in from the Stern of the Ship, where he had por'd himself half blind in Quest of an Occultation of *Jupiter* ; and so cold, that he had lost the Use of his Feet. — He was scarcely seated, when *Mitre* having fixed his Attention wholly on *Sippit's* Eye-lash ; in order to demonstrate his Proposition, undesignedly took hold of it with his Finger, which wak'd *Sippit* with so much Surprize, that it was difficult to reconcile him to the Occasion of his being disturbed. — *Digit*, however, took that Opportunity of asking him for a Glass of Brandy, which he obtained, tho' with some Reluctance, Mr. *Sippit* telling us, he doubted whether we must not come to short Allowance before Day-light : Upon which he filled his Pipe, and enquired what Entertainment Mr. *Digit* had met with among the Planets ?

SOON after this we were put into the greatest Consternation. — From a Silence interrupted with nothing but the gentle Contest of our Ship with the Water, we were alarm'd with a Noise, like a Clap of Thunder, bursting on our slender Deck: — *Digit* said, it was impossible, for fifteen Minutes before, there appeared not the least Indication of Thunder in the whole Hemisphere, and assured us it was not a Season of the Year to expect such a Phenomenon: — *Sippit* cry'd *Pshaw* at his Information, and said, Drowning would be as disagreeable now as if Thunder were in Season; and calling aloud to the Mariners to know whether we were sinking, was answered, That we were in no manner of Danger, all the Noise we heard being occasioned by nothing but falling the Mast to go under *Fulham-Bridge*. — *Sippit* again sigh'd for Day-light, and lighted his Pipe. — *Gil Gloworm* listen'd to the Name of *Fulham*, and asked, if it was not the Residence of a very popular Prelate? And being answered in the Affirmative, he tapp'd *Mitre* on the Shoulder, and asked him, whether Episcopal Palaces stood so close in the first Age of the Church? *Mitre* seem'd not pleased with this Sneer, — and to prevent their Jangling, *Triplet* said, as *Putney Church-yard* seem'd, as far as he could see, directly over-against it, he was persuaded the Remains of Mr. TOLAND on that Side the River, would amply counter-balance any Super-abundance of Ecclesiastical Authority on the opposite Shore.

MR. GLOWORM ask'd whether we had pass'd by the House, formerly in the Possession of the celebrated *Pig Hughes*, which he had been told was an elegant Seat in the old Taste?

— *Triplet*



— *Triplet* from hence endeavoured to remove the Odium commonly cast on Women of her Character, from the Examples of that kind that occur in sacred and profane Writings, without the Shadow of Blame: *Mitre* was framing himself for a profound Answer, when *Sippit* said, he knew not what Helps their Learning might give them on this Head; but he was well persuaded, according to the received Notion of Harlots, he would much rather undertake to prove who was the first, than to determine who will be the last of the Fraternity.

FROM the Land we were now told, by a Clock, which brought a Solemnity with its Intelligence, that it was Twelve: Here it was natural to ask what Church it belong'd to? but we could not get a satisfactory Answer from our Guides, who differed from one to three Miles in their Answers.— This set Mr. *Mitre* to expatiating on the Exactness of many Accounts which our Travellers give us of foreign Parts; in which, said he, not a Furlong shall be omitted in three hundred Miles; not the Elevation of a Hill over-look'd, nor a Window in the Church on the Top of it undescribed!— Yes, said *Sam Sippit*, it is highly probable they may be more particular in their Journeys by Day, than we can pretend to be at present: But if Hear-say went not farther with them than ocular Demonstration, we should not always find them so voluminous on their Return. *Mortlake*, *Hammer-smith*, and *Chiswick*, were named to us, but we saw not one of them.— By this Time the Chil of the Midnight seized on us all, *Sippit* excepted: We were told the next Port we could put into for fresh Provisions, was called *Thistleworth*, where we should  
not

not fail of Entertainment any Hour in the Night. — *Mitre* said he had heard his Tutor talk of Night-Houses as Places of ill Fame: *Gloworm* laugh'd at his Caution, and said it would suit his future Gravity much better to remain in the Vessel in a silent Meditation on mull'd Wine, while we were drinking it; an Example of Self-denial seldom parallel'd by his Brethren. — We made *Triplet* sing us a lame Song of his own making, till we arrived in the wish'd-for Haven, where we found some Difficulty at Landing, by the numbness of our Joints; and *Digit* being silly enough to endeavour to take one of his Instruments with him, to make an Observation on firm Land, dropp'd it in crossing the Plank, and could scarcely keep himself from following.

IN the Room for Reception of all Visitors, into which we were conducted, we found some Hardship to get Seats, and more to come near the Fire; but the mix'd Appearance of the Company promised some Diversion in Recompence for that Disappointment.

THE Orator of the whole Room, who had fast Hold of every Ear in the Audience, when our Entrance interrupted him, was a sort of superannuated Soldier, who was describing the Siege of *Lisle* with more Exactness than if he had been the first Man that scal'd the Wall: — Several of his attentive Hearers seemed pretty much pleas'd to have an Opportunity of displaying their own Talents, as well as to listen to those of another. — *Sam Sippit*, after getting a Seat as near the Fire as he could, ordered some Wine, &c. to be brought us, and then, with a most profound Solemnity, spreading his Hands before the Fire, was so kind as to inform

inform all present, that it was a *very cold Night*; which was unanimously assented to; but, says the Narrative Captain, had you endured the Cold I have, by sleeping Six Weeks together by my Horse's Side on the Top of the Alps, you'd imagine the middle of the *Thames* a hot Bath. — Very likely Sir, said *Gil Glowworm*; but pray what Forage did you meet with in that icy Region? — That, Sir, reply'd the Captain, you will know, when you have Courage enough to encounter the same Hardship; and then (looking archly in *Gil's* Face) began to fill his Pipe. — On *Gil's* right Hand sat a couple of mean-looking Fellows, with each a large white Bag in his Hand, of which they seemed to take extraordinary Care: *Mitre* eye'd them with much Earnestness, and at last ventured to enquire what they contain'd? — Sir, one of the Men reply'd, I have here the finest Bird this Day in *England*, who has beat the famous *Bromley Roaster*, kill'd the noted *Rough* from *Bedford* dead upon the Spot, and thigh'd *Crop'd Caleb* from *Ipswich* the first Stroke; and To-morrow will beat *Stalking Tom* of *Stains*, for two Guineas; nay *Will*, said his Companion, don't run too fast, he's a good Bird, sure enough, but *Spangle* here in my Hand, you know will beat a dozen of him; Sir, said he, turning to *Mitre*, believe me, tho' he rises pretty well, yet he makes nothing at all on't at Billing, and keeps little or no Guard for his Head; but *Spangle* does more Execution in three Strokes, than he in Six; and then — Hang your idle Nonsense, cry'd one who sat opposite to him, (while *Matt* seemed stunn'd to Death) about your foolish Cocks; give me a good Ring of Bells, — there's some  
Sense



Sense in them; and let them say what they will of *St. Martin's*, *St. Michael's* in *Cornhill* for me, — there's a Tenor for you! — Ay, says a Woman who sat in the Corner, now you talk of Bell-ringing, I can't help crying — my poor *Billy* was born in the middle of a Peel, and ran after nothing else all his Days; — he was the sweetest temper'd Creature, and tho' he never loved Working, how good humoured was he after his Play! Ah! *Billy! Billy!* — In such sort of Discourse we passed away half an Hour, and then repaired to our Vessel.

WHILE *Sam* was paying our Reckoning, there stood at his Elbow an Animal, the Sight of which gave me some Satisfaction, being the first we met with to furnish me with a Description of that kind, without which this Account would be imperfect: — It was a Quadrupede, of about 14 Inches long, and the Circumference of the thickest Part of its Belly near 12; its Head was shap'd not unlike that of a *Lion*, though neither so large nor fierce; its Tale was longer in Proportion, and more gradually taper than that of an *Aligator*; its Talons were very like those of a *Panther*, and its Eyes, when view'd in the proper Position, shone like those of the *African Tyger*; its Skin was of such a Nature, that when pressed with a little Motion by your Hand in the Dark, it issues forth flashes of Lightning, in a most astonishing Manner; and whenever its Back is gently strok'd, it rears its Tail to a Perpendicular. — It was suffer'd to walk about without being chain'd, and seldom did any Mischief, unless exasperated to it: It fed promiscuously on whatever was given it, but was more particularly fond of all Kinds of Fish. — Upon asking its Name,

H

we

we found it was by some Authors, distinguish-  
ed by that of the GRIMALKIN.

BEING all re-placed in our Vessel, we di-  
verted ourselves some time with the Humours  
of the Company we had been in. — *Mitre*  
went instantly to preaching, and said it gave  
him no small Concern to see the wild Pursuit  
of Pleasure, prevail so generally among the  
lower sort of People. — *Digit* said, there  
was too much room for Apprehension from  
that Quarter, whereas, would they turn their  
Heads towards Astronomy, some Benefit might  
arise from it: — Yes, says *Triplet*, the old-  
est Star-monger now living, has shewn such an  
Example of the Use of that Employment in fifty  
Years practice, as not to be able to evert his  
*own* Ruin. — If the Poor don't love Work,  
said *Gloworm*, let them turn Poets, for that Pro-  
fession can never disagree with their Circumstan-  
ces; for,

*Rhyming may thrive without much Toil,  
Nothing may grow on any Soil.*

## CHAP. IX.

*Carries us, with some Difficulty, past  
Twickenham, to Kingston-Bridge; with  
a Parallel between shooting that and the  
Gulph of Florida.*

**T**RIPLET laugh'd heartily at *Mr. Glo-  
worm's* Verse, and told him in two Hour's  
time, the Muses would be up; for it was plain  
they were a-sleep at present.

*For*

*For when the NINE refuse celestial Fire,  
The Bard in vain may rhyme and tune his Lyre;  
But if he waits for Influence divine,  
His Pen's too slow to catch the glowing Line.*

True, said Mr. Mitre, for, as my Chum  
used to say, whenever he found himself seiz-  
ed with a Fit of Rhyming, to which he was  
sometimes subject —

*Verse drowns the Brain, like an impetuous Flood,  
And, like that too, does much more Ill than Good.*

Mr. Sippit look'd very surly on this, and filling  
a Glas and drinking to Mr. Digit, he turn'd about,

*If more such Stuff I am oblig'd to bear,  
I shall wish you at the Bottom of the Thames I  
fear.*

Dick call'd out to our Navigators, to know  
whereabouts we were? and was answered at  
Twickenham; — Ah, said Triplet, now the  
Mystery is out: Some Supernumerary Genius's  
who can find no Room at Mr. Pope's Levée,  
have thought fit to exercise themselves on us:  
On this we all rose up, and endeavoured to  
view the harmonious Grot, but it was too dark  
to perceive any thing distinctly; tho' Triplet  
insisted that he saw *Thalia* waft toward the tune-  
ful Mansion; whence, he said, there had been  
expected for some time, a Performance of the  
Dramatick Kind; surely, said Mr. Sippit, that  
Gentleman does not intend, after several Years  
Enjoyment of unrival'd Fame, and the Esteem  
not only of good Poets, but also of the best



Philosophers and Moralists of the Age, to subject his Pen to the Judgment of every strutting Critick, who has a mind to contribute *Three Shillings* towards his *Damnation*. — Oh, Sir, reply'd *Triplet*, an Author who lately underwent that Sentence by the unanimous Consent of the Audience, has composed a Piece on that Occasion, which will provide against any bad Consequence that might be expected from the most rigorous Judgment for the future. — Then pulling out a Paper, he read as follows:

AN AUTHOR'S Letter to HIMSELF the Morning after his Play was Damn'd.

Dear SIR,

“ IT was with the greatest Amazement and  
 “ Concern I was a Spectator of your excellent Comedy last Night. — At the very  
 “ opening of the first Scene, my Heart flow'd  
 “ with Thankfulness to Heaven, that the Age  
 “ would no longer need to lament a JOHN-  
 “ SON or a SHAKESPEAR, a CONGREVE or  
 “ a STEELE! — Happy, said I, is the  
 “ Age for whose Entertainment these Scenes  
 “ are written, and thrice happy he to whom  
 “ the Fame of having written them is due!  
 “ The whole Audience was struck with Admi-  
 “ ration, and gave the Attention it merited;  
 “ till a Party of envious Scriblers, observing  
 “ the great Pleasure with which the Perfor-  
 “ mance was received, raised a Cry against  
 “ some of the most exquisite Beauties in the  
 “ whole: — Envy, you know, excellent  
 “ Sir, is of a most contagious Nature, and  
 “ where

“ where there is one who will give Merit its  
 “ due Praise, there are Ten will labour to de-  
 “ pretiate it : Hence arose the loud and brutal  
 “ Groanings which interrupted the moving  
 “ Scene : For what but *Party* could have blind-  
 “ ed Men’s Eyes to such *admirable Contrivance*,  
 “ as appeared in your *Fable*, and the many  
 “ *surprizing Incidents* which conduce to the  
 “ well-wrought Catastrophe ! What but *Party*  
 “ could object to the Ease and *Sweetness of*  
 “ *the Language*, and its natural Fitness for the  
 “ Characters who spoke it ! What but *Party*  
 “ could overlook the amiable Virtue which ap-  
 “ peared in the *moral Lessons*, which you had  
 “ every where spread with Intention of reviv-  
 “ ing the true Design of the Theatre ! What  
 “ but *Party* could have sat unmoved at the  
 “ *Wit* which flash’d from every Line ! ~~and~~  
 “ Nothing but *Party* could have inspired  
 “ this : There is not room for the least Suppo-  
 “ sition of Fault in the Piece itself, its Beau-  
 “ ties being incontestible, and too powerful  
 “ to have been subdu’d by any other Force  
 “ than that of *Party*, which e’er now, you  
 “ know, Sir, has overthrown Empires. ~~For~~  
 “ WHEN the Opposition began to shew it-  
 “ self, I perswaded myself that the judicious  
 “ Part of the Audience, would have proved  
 “ sufficient to have quell’d the threatening  
 “ Storm ; but, alas ! when Folly rears her  
 “ Voice, too many are found to join the Cry !  
 “ So that the *giddy, thoughtless* Opposers of  
 “ your Merit, became too loud for the wise and  
 “ discerning Part of the House, who were all  
 “ highly displeased with your Treatment, and  
 “ infinitely delighted with your Piece ; but  
 “ what could they do in this tempestuous Occ-  
 “ an?

“ an? Their Voices were not used to such im-  
 “ moderate Heights, and their Hands were  
 “ too delicate to be bruised on any Occasion :  
 “ Tho’ even at the last there remained in the  
 “ *Pit*, that Region of Bitterness, *near half a*  
 “ *Dozen* young Gentlemen who exerted them-  
 “ selves remarkably in your Favour, and who I  
 “ am persuaded must be possessed of more Sense  
 “ and Learning than all the rest. — With  
 “ what Concern did I see the Rage of your  
 “ Enemies proceed so far as even to oblige the  
 “ Actors to desist, before the Representation  
 “ was compleated, and that upon an idle Pre-  
 “ tence, that what they had seen already, pro-  
 “ mised nothing worth their farther Attention;  
 “ whereas the inexpressible Beauty and Sur-  
 “ prize contained in what was to come, would  
 “ have attoned for all the Faults which went  
 “ before, had there been as many as their un-  
 “ just Prejudice made them imagine. — — In-  
 “ considerate Men! What have you done! By  
 “ crushing a Genius which set out with so many  
 “ Advantages, what have you concealed  
 “ from yourselves; and what Treasures have  
 “ you kept from following Generations! ———  
 “ You, Sir, have the greatest room to re-  
 “ joice, notwithstanding the bad Usage you  
 “ meet with from your Cotemporaries! It  
 “ was also the Lot of the most excellent among  
 “ the Antients; and the Justice you were de-  
 “ nied upon the *Stage*, you will find from the  
 “ *Press*, without Constraint. There you may  
 “ speak freely, without the Interruption of an  
 “ *audacious Groan*, and display your Wit without  
 “ fearing the *impertinent Thrill* of a *Cat-Call*.  
 “ — Record your undeserved ill Treatment,  
 “ and, when After-times raise Trophies to your  
 “ Name,



“ Name, they will brand with Infamy an Age  
 “ that could be insensible of such uncommon  
 “ Merit. — This hereafter will surely be your  
 “ Recompence, and in the mean time forget  
 “ not that Virtue is its own Reward: The  
 “ Stage may truly may be said to be, as one  
 “ of your Predecessors said of the World, an  
 “ *unweeded Garden*: — You were gene-  
 “ rously pleased to set about its Reformation, in  
 “ a manner which promised and deserved the  
 “ utmost Success. — In your *Attempt* you suc-  
 “ ceeded, and that you failed in the *Success*, is  
 “ the Shame of those for whose Good alone you  
 “ drew your Quil. — More I could add,  
 “ but being conscious of your Aversion for  
 “ Flattery, I must subscribe myself,

Greatly Injured Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

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## CHAP. X.

*Brings Day-light, and our Vessel to  
 HAMPTON-COURT.*

IN passing *Kingston-Bridge*, our Surprise was  
 not much; but Mr. *Mitre* expressed some  
 Dislike at being so frequently interrupted in our  
 Passage, and could not be persuaded but these  
 Bridges might be so contrived as to admit such  
 small Vessels as are constantly going up and  
 down the River, to pass under them Top and  
 Top Gallant: *Digit* said, he believed it might  
 be done without much Expence, provided a  
 fit

fit Model was fixed upon — *Sippit* and *Gloworm* had slip'd into a Nod, while *Triplet* was reading the foregoing Letter; and I who had hitherto done little more than attend to what was said, began to rouse myself on the Approach of Day-light, which Mr. *Digit* assured me was at hand, and whispering *Mitre* and I, informed us, that if we were willing to assist him, he thought to make an Attempt on the *Longitude*, as soon as the Morning began to dawn: *Matt* said, he was not against helping him what he could, provided he would promise to insure his Senses; for that at College they had been pestered with so many crack-brain'd Longitude-Hunters, as had introduced a Rule to bleed and physick any young Gentlemen on the first Symptoms of that Malady; and in those designed for Orders, it is look'd on as a grievous Misfortune: I cannot apprehend the Cause of that, reply'd *Digit*, since they who have made the greatest Bustle about it have been Priests in all Nations; — that, I said, might be owing more to the extraordinary Reward fix'd to such Discovery, than to their Qualifications for the Task — *Triplet* came to us and insisted on being admitted of our Party, as being the only one now awake in the Cabbin; we freely told him what we intended to go about, — on which he said, with a long Yawn, that he would in the mean time wait the opening of the Day, in order to finish a grand Poem he had on the Stocks, called *The MORNING BLUSH*: — *Digit* was glad at his Departure; for though a Poet is said to be a Proficient in all Sciences, I dont remember an Instance of Good coming from a Man in the Knowledge of any thing else, when he has once contracted an Itch after

Rhyming ; for then more than a superficial Idea he cannot spare time for ; since the Muses are Ladies of so jealous a Disposition as to withdraw themselves on the Admission of a Rival, to whatever good Purpose she may be introduc'd : — Even to *Industry*, who is as desirable a Companion, in all Stations of Life, as a Man can be troubled with, they hold irréconcilable Enmity ; and without the most assiduous Application, said *Digit*, we shall never obtain the Secret we are now going to discover.

EVERY Thing being got in Readiness, Mr. *Digit* bid our Mariners stop the Ship : Our Captain answer'd, that was not easily done ; but beg'd to know what she was to be stop'd for : We answer'd, to make an Experiment : Oh ! Masters, said he, you need only look toward Shore on either Side, and know the *Longitude* at once : Besides, added he, at Sea a Ship never stands still, and there what you do must be as you roll on : — *Digit* was a little chagrin'd at the Freedom of this Answer : But nevertheless we proceeded in our Discovery : — he took the Heighth of the Mast, from the Deck to the Fane, which was 73 Feet, 4 Inch.  $\frac{1}{4}$  ; then we were to take the Depth of Water we were in ; this was attended with much Difficulty by the Sailing of our Vessel, which dragg'd our Line, spite of all our Endeavours against it ; but to the greatest Certainty we could attain, we judg'd it to be about 16 Feet, 3 In.  $\frac{3}{4}$ . By comparing these two Numbers together we found, that if our Vessel were turn'd Up-side down, the Surface of the Deck would be 57 Feet, 8 Inches from the Water : This being agreed upon, *Digit* produc'd a Table of the Moon's mean Motion, who had not been seen all Night :



then he began to form an Angle from the Deck to the next Heighth, whilst it was scarcely light enough for him to see; when that was done, we began to consider the Sums offer'd by the several *European* Crowns in Reward for the Discovery we were so near completing: *Dick* insisted on having a full Half to himself, and only the other Half between *Mitre* and *I*; which we acknowledged would be an ample Recompence for our Fatigues, but wish'd he might certainly know who to sue for a Non-compliance with the Articles proposed for such Discovery, some Years since: This struck *Dick* all on a Heap; he paus'd a little, and then concluded with some Concern, with the wary *Frenchman*, that he would play no more till he was certain who should pay the Piper.

By this time *Sam Sippit* awoke, and coming upon Deck, express'd much Satisfaction on the Return of Day; and indeed there was not a Beauty in Nature which did not now present itself. The fertile Banks smiled with a Face like *May*, and the Rural Choristers trill'd the enchanting Note, which is but poorly imitated by the best Artists; the loosing Herd echo'd the Summons from *Phœbus* for Nature to arise, while the bleating Flock saluted the approaching God with a grateful Cheerfulness on his enlivening Visit; the scaly Throng rushed in a sportive Swiftnefs along the lambient Wave; while the happy Clown with a melodious Note, hasted gladly to his daily Toil, destitute of every thing which the polite World reckon Ingredients of Happiness, and full as insensible of the Dreads, Disappointments, and Perplexities which attend the most exalted Stations: We stood on Deck while the Morning open'd till we came with-

in

in sight of a small House with a dirty Stable and a Hog-sty between it and the River: On the Sight of this Cottage, one of our Seamen came up to us, and said, if we wanted to look about us, there was not a finer Sight up all the *Thames* than at yonder House, which we should soon come up to: We view'd it with much Diligence, but could not perceive any thing in it that seem'd agreeable, or even tolerable: This put us to a Loss to know what the Fellow meant by his Description of it; but upon Enquiry we found that it was the Place of his Nativity, and that the poor Man really meant what he said of it — This made us smile at the excellent Provision made by Nature for the whole Universe, by that unmoveable Attachment for the Place of our Birth, spite of every Thing which, on an Acquaintance with the rest of the World, appears against it: Which brought to my Mind a Letter I found among my late Uncle's Papers, which is so expressive on this Subject, that I cannot withstand the Temptation of inserting it here: — It is dated 1735, and was, I believe, sent him from a Relation, who then lived at *London*, but is since dead.

*Esteemed SIR,*  
 “ I Am sorry to find you express such Dislike  
 “ at your Reception in Town: I endeavour’d,  
 “ the most I could to make your stay  
 “ agreeable, and am concern’d that it did not  
 “ answer the End I intended; but as you have  
 “ always given me a Freedom of speaking or  
 “ writing to you, which I can vindicate from  
 “ nothing but your Indulgence, I hope you  
 “ will allow me the Liberty of accounting for  
 “ your Dissatisfaction in the best Manner I can;  
 “ though,

“ though, perhaps, I may herein differ in  
 “ some degree from your own Sentiments.

“ You complain of the *Flatness* of our *pub-*  
 “ *lick Diversions*, the want of *Wit, Humour* and  
 “ *good Representation*, in our new *Dramatick*  
 “ *Pieces*; and our new Musick is so dull and  
 “ inharmonious, that were it not for a Bit here  
 “ and there, which they have stole from honest  
 “ HARRY PURCEL, you could not keep your-  
 “ self awake during what are reckoned our best  
 “ Performances.

“ THE Cause of this Difference between the  
 “ publick Entertainments now, and thirty or  
 “ forty Years ago, is not really in the *Per-*  
 “ *formances*, but in *You*; then your gay chear-  
 “ ful Disposition of Mind, made you relish  
 “ things of a light airy Nature, and the Sa-  
 “ tisfaction and Ease, which possessed your  
 “ Thoughts when you were a Spectator of the  
 “ Publick Diversions, naturally returns to your  
 “ Memory with the Remembrance of them;  
 “ your Fancy being then at Ease, your Heart  
 “ was *inclin'd* to Pleasure: — Whereas now,  
 “ your Thoughts being *employ'd* on Things of  
 “ *real Importance*, these *useless Spectacles* appear  
 “ beneath your Notice, and because you can-  
 “ not relish them so well as you did those you  
 “ formerly saw, you are unwilling to think  
 “ them as worthy your Esteem.

“ The Merriment you make at our *low heel'd*  
 “ *Shoes* and *thin Perukes*, arises from the same  
 “ Origin; in Vindication of the first, *Nature*  
 “ speaks on our Side; and both *Health, Conve-*  
 “ *nience*, and *Frugality* declare for the latter;  
 “ for surely two Ounces of Hair must preju-  
 “ dice the Brain less than *thirty*; let the latter  
 “ be worn in what Reign it will — Our  
 “ Buckles



“ Buckles may be *too large*, and are, perhaps;  
 “ wore *too low* upon the Foot; but can that  
 “ look so ridiculous upon the Foot of a Man as  
 “ a *red Top* upon his *Shoe* to cover his *Ankle*?  
 “ — Our Pockets are too high, you say, so  
 “ that you cannot attain the Art of getting at  
 “ those of your last Suit: I will grant, that  
 “ were they placed somewhat lower, they  
 “ would be more commodious; yet as they are  
 “ they fully answer the End of Pockets; —  
 “ whereas the *Preliminary Pockets* you so much  
 “ boast of, are in their very Shape a Contra-  
 “ diction to the Intention of a Pocket at all. —  
 “ It may be ridiculous to see a young Fellow  
 “ with a Cane or Stick in his Hand too long  
 “ to walk with: But is it so fantastick as to have  
 “ a Cane hung to your Breast-Button, to carry  
 “ all Day long, though all the Value you put  
 “ upon it is for its being in some Measure able  
 “ to carry you? —  
 “ It is the same Cause that produces such a  
 “ warm Attachment in most Men to the Place  
 “ of their Nativity. — In regard to which, it  
 “ matters not whether the Place has in itself  
 “ any thing to recommend it or no; he who  
 “ thinks on the *fertile Meads*, in which he spent  
 “ the vacant Hours of his Infancy, has not more  
 “ Pleasure in the Reflection, than he who re-  
 “ collects the *barren Crags* upon which his  
 “ childish Pastimes were enjoy'd; they were  
 “ each *free from Care* when they resided there,  
 “ and with Remembrance of a Place, always  
 “ returns the Frame of our Mind when we  
 “ were at it. — Can an *Italian* speak of his  
 “ Country with greater Pride and Pleasure than  
 “ a *Highlander*? And who would undertake to  
 “ convince the latter that his is inferior in any  
 bene-

“ beneficial Particular! — This Thought re-  
 “ minds me of the inconceivable Injury done  
 “ our Nation by the Countenance which is gi-  
 “ ven to the pernicious Fashion of educating  
 “ our Youth in *foreign Realms*; to which Prac-  
 “ tice I know you are no Friend; which, be-  
 “ sides a hundred bad Effects that might be  
 “ mentioned, has this dangerous Consequence,  
 “ viz. the Planting in the rising Generation  
 “ that *Affection for a distant Clime* which is the  
 “ *Right of their Native Land*, and in which  
 “ the *real Safety* of every Nation must abso-  
 “ lutely consist: — What Regard can we ex-  
 “ pect to find in the Breast of a young Gentle-  
 “ man for a Land which was not thought capa-  
 “ ble of furnishing him with an Education  
 “ suitable to the Fortune he is to possess in it?  
 “ — If our Laws and Customs are preferable  
 “ to those of the Realm he has been in, they  
 “ cannot but labour under the Disadvantage  
 “ of appearing *Strange*, at least; and what un-  
 “ due Pre-eminence does it give to *Foreign*  
 “ *Language, Learning, and Oeconomy*! And  
 “ how useless must our once famed *Universities*  
 “ and *Colleges* be in the Eyes of our Neigh-  
 “ bours, when they are made to appear inca-  
 “ pable of serving our *own Youth*! — But to  
 “ return:

“ *THIS Ease of Mind*, and the *unallay'd*  
 “ *Pleasure* we enjoy in our Childhood is the  
 “ Occasion of one Complaint which is almost  
 “ Universal; a Complaint of the *Badness of the*  
 “ *present Times*, by Persons in Years, and a  
 “ most extravagant Commendation of the *Time*  
 “ *of their Youth*; which has been known to pre-  
 “ vail so far, as to let us sometimes hear the  
 “ *worst* of Times preferred to the *best*; the

“ want

“ want of Health, the Approach of Age, the  
 “ Disrelish for Pleasure, and every thing else  
 “ that happens to give old People Uneasiness,  
 “ being constantly laid to the Charge of the  
 “ Times, in some way or other : And it is  
 “ most amazing, that tho’ this Cry has been  
 “ transmitted to our Grandfathers, and by them  
 “ to us, yet we scarcely turn our fortieth Year,  
 “ before we repeat the Eccho ! — The Post  
 “ waiting, I have not time properly to apolo-  
 “ gise for the Freedom of this ; but hope you  
 “ will excuse it in,

S I R,

Your most obedient, &c.

WHEN we came near enough to have a full view of the Palace at Hampton-Court, we thought it too agreeable a Sight to be lost by our Friend *Gil Gloworm*, who was still a-sleep in the Cabin ; and therefore I went, and after pulling him by the Shoulder, I told him the Cause of my waking him : — *Hampton-Court*, said he, wasn’t it built by a Cardinal ? I answered yes ; but what you can now see, is of a much later Date. — He would have gladly continued his Nap ; but on finding his Endeavours to sleep longer to no purpose, he stepped upon Deck, and was much pleased with the Prospect ; and especially as discoursing on Cardinal *Woolsey*, gave him a fine Opportunity to rail against the *Pride and Arrogance of Pamper’d Priests* in all Ages, and of every Denomination : Mr. *Mitre* endeavoured to reply, but the Fact stood so against him, as to render his



his Answer of no Effect. — A little beyond this Palace was a neat little House, where we were told we might have Breakfast, or any thing we wanted: — After a short Consultation, here we put ashore, and found a very clean House, with three or four lusty young Fellows at Breakfast upon some Eggs and Bacon; — upon Enquiry what we could have, we were told, that if we liked not what was then on the Table, there was a pair of fine Ox-kidneys in the House, which should be dressed with all the Haste possible: — The want of Rest had rather pall'd than encreased our Appetites, so that we could think of nothing but Coffee, which being to fetch a good way, we had an Opportunity to survey the Country some time before it could be got ready. — The Ground hereabouts lies low, but is well enclos'd, and has several fine Seats in the Neighbourhood; but the Rout we had fixed would not permit us to visit any of them: In passing the End of an old Stone-wall, *Tom Triplet* espied a Stone of an irregular Figure, upon which he imagined were the Traces of an old *Inscription*: He begg'd we would stop to make a proper Enquiry into this Curiosity; for why, Gentlemen, said he, must we imagine that our own Climate is unable to furnish a Stone worth lugging half a League, while *France, Germany, or Italy*, have them snatch'd up for Curiosities, and sent a thousand Miles in a 'Scrutore. — Let me see, *Tom*, said *Gil*, this Stone, by its Size, may have been the Head of the famous Idol *Woden*, who was worship'd hereabout. — *Digit* fixed his Eyes close on the supposed *Inscription*, and said he could plainly make out *C. J. C. T. M. ANG.* which may signify, *Gaius*

*Caius Julius Caesar.* — *T. M. ANG.* — this could not be in *Tiberius's* Time, so that *T. M. ANG.* imports — imports, interrupted *Sippit*, 'tis easy enough to tell what that stands for: Better than hammer your Brain till Breakfast be spoil'd, it may be read thus: *C. J. C. T. M. ANG.* that is, when translated, *CAIUS JULIUS CÆSAR, LIEUTENANT UNDER TAMERLANE THE GREAT, IN ENGLAND.*

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## CHAP. XI.

*From HAMPTON-COURT, to the Town of STAINS.*

EVERY thing appeared now so delightful abroad, that we took leave of our Cabin, and placed ourselves as well as our small Deck would allow: We perceived several Churches built on the Summits of the adjacent Hills, a Practice used in almost every Country in *England*: *Mitre* was put upon giving the Reason of it: — He said, he thought having the publick Places of Worship placed as much in the view of the People, as possible, was adviseable, on account of its thereby striking the Notice of the Vulgar, who are at all times too apt to neglect it: — Right *Matt*, reply'd *Mr. Gloworm*, I know not a better way of effectually preserving the *visible Church*.

WE went under *Chertsea-Bridge* without much Complaint, because we were now Eye-witnesses of our Danger; but when we had got thro', *Digit* said, he could not help recollecting

the account of Sir *Francis Drake's* shooting the Gulph of *Florida*, so excellently represented at *Drake's Folly*, (near *Wendover* in *Buckinghamshire*) by some Images of a barbarous Sort, stooping, in order to jump into a Kennel which runs by the Bottom of the Garden!

ALONG as pleasant a Bank, as Fancy can paint, we gently sailed till we came near a Place, the Name of which we were informed was *Lalam*: A Place insignificant to look at, tho' we understood that in the Seasons of the Year proper for Fishing, it is frequented by a great number of considerable Citizens: Men, who for a Recreation from standing behind a Compter two or three Hours in a Day, haste up hither, spite of all Weather, attend their Sport by Night and Day for a Week, stand wet to the Skin for ten Hours together, without receiving any Damage, though at home a Curtain being left undrawn will lay them up for a Month. — Our Curiosity here was so much excited, that we ordered our Ship to stop, went all on shore, and were conducted to the House of an old Man, who by his account of himself, is the most familiar with the Inhabitants of the *Thames*, of any Person now living: There is not a Spot for the Space of sixteen Miles of the River, of which he is ignorant, nor one Hole of which he knows not the Contents; and so expert is he in his Diary, that he can tell to a Minute the Return of the young Fry to the Places in which they were first bred. — Baits of all Sorts he is always provided with, and makes it the Business of his Life (as do also all his Neighbours) to attend our *London* Fishermen, with a Boat, and what else is needful for their Purpose. I expressed some Surprize at the Description he

gave



gave of his Abilities, and declared that I thought it wonderful how the different Species of Fish were preserved, while every Season so many Gentlemen were instructed by him how to destroy them: As for that, Sir, said he, my Masters have commonly a great deal of Pastime for doing very little Mischief, for it seldom happens that with all the Instructions we can give them, they are able to supply themselves with Suppers while they stay among us; — tho' the Day after they go home, we commonly send them a few for their Families and Friends, — which were too troublesome to take along with them; being seldom taken at their Departure. — The old Man took us into a kind of Warehouse behind his Dwelling-house, which was quite filled with Baskets, Rods, and other Tackle belonging to such Customers as are so used to their own Lines, Hooks, &c. by using them once or twice a Year, as to be unable to fish with any other. — After seeing some Skins and Bones of Fish of uncommon Sizes, and being told of many more, stranger than these which he had lost, either by the snapping of a Line, the breaking of a Net, or because he could not get hold of them, we return'd to our Vessel, little better for any thing we got on Shore: But on being told that *Stains*, a handsome large Town was now not far off, Mr. *Sippit* opened the last Bottle of Wine we had on board, with an Information to us all, that we must either take in fresh Provisions at the next Port, or run the Hazard of starving at Sea, which he thought it highly prudent to provide against. — Upon this we renewed his Commission of Procurator for the Voyage, and re-placed ourselves, in order to view the Country, which was delightful

on each Side the River, — and I cannot persuade myself that the Banks of the *Rhine* or *Danube*, so extoll'd by our *English* Travellers, can, every thing considered, exceed it. — What has Nature denied the *Thames*? And what has Art with-held from her Banks? — Where are Lawns more wonderfully guarded by the Intervention of useful Woods and Thickets? Or what Nation can boast a Stream so deck'd with noble Palaces, and Seats of so many *Rich* Subjects? — What a racket do some of our Advocates for foreign Nations make, on meeting, perhaps once in 30 or 40 Miles, with a Building that is tolerable! How are the *Avenues* described, the numbers of its Windows magnified, the *Rivulets* which run near it metamorphosed into *Canals*, and *Pigeon-houses* into *Averies*! Every *scurvy Fountain* is made to play over the House Top, and even a tottering *Hog-sye* furnishes a Description of most convenient *Out-houses*: Whereas, if they would be as careful to survey the Houses and Gardens bordering on this River, their Pens would hardly prove equal to the true Description, and *Faëts* would relieve them of the Perplexity of *Invention*. —

WE arrived safe at *Stains* about Ten in the Forenoon, and went to a House of Entertainment, where every thing appeared in a very good Taste: Breakfast was brought, consisting of Chocolate, Coffee, Ham, Cheese, Ale and Wine: I mention the Particulars, because it was the first time I remember seeing things brought in this manner, and is what I approve of, since in a Company of six Men it is natural to expect, at least, one or two who can breakfast on Beef and Ale: Tho' I think *Sippit* was the only one among us of that Stamp. — An agreeable

agreeable looking old Gentleman entered our Room, and desiring to breakfast with us, was very readily received: He appeared to be pretty much discomposed, and could not, without some Difficulty, conceal the Cause of his Uneasiness: Mr. *Sippit*, who is naturally of an open Address, told him, that he was afraid he had met with something to spoil his Appetite, he took so little Notice of his Coffee: Sir, said he, I am a little ruffled, 'tis true, but as you seem all to have lately come from *London*, it may be in your Power to inform me whether I have Reason to be displeased or no. — Sam said, we should be glad to resolve him in what we could: — Then, replied the old Gentleman, I must acquaint you, that I have a Son who is a Student in one of the Inns of Court, and having a young Gentlewoman left in my Care, whom I should be glad to have marry him: I lately sent her to Town for a short Time, under the Guardianship of a Maiden Sister of my own, and by her sent a Letter to my Son, desiring he might shew her the Curiosities that are usually shewn to Strangers in *London*; such as the Court, *Westminster-Abbey* and *Hall*, *St. Paul's Church*, the *Monument*, *Bedlam*, &c. and told him I would defray the Expence, whatever it amounted to: — I have, an Hour ago, received a Letter from him, in which was inclosed this *Bill of Cost* for my Promise. Whether it be a reasonable Charge, or a Design of the Rogue's to extort Money from me, you may be better able to tell than I; tho' about four and thirty Years ago, I have treated young Ladies with whatever the polite Taste then required, and cannot recollect that the Expence was a sixth Part of this. — Upon which, giving the Bill to Mr. *Sippit*, he  
read



read it deliberately, that we might have an Opportunity maturely to consider the several Articles.

|   | <i>l.</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| The Tower, _____  | 2         | 0         | 0         |
| The Monument, _____   | 0         | 4         | 0         |
| The <i>Exeter</i> Mermaid, _____  | 1         | 0         | 0         |
| Toys, &c. which Miss took a Fancy to as we<br>passed the Streets, _____   | 9         | 14        | 6         |
| The Curiosities of <i>St. Paul's</i> , _____  | 0         | 10        | 0         |
| Bedlam, _____   | 0         | 9         | 0         |
| Mrs. <i>Vandenbunck's</i> Paper Pictures, by Miss's<br>particular Desire, _____   | 0         | 9         | 6         |
| An Assembly, _____  | 5         | 13        | 9½        |
| <i>Salmon's</i> Wax-work, _____   | 0         | 7         | 6         |
| A Tragedy, with Orange Chips and Apples,<br><i>St. James's</i> , _____  | 0         | 17        | 4         |
| <i>Westminster-Hall</i> , &c. _____   | 1         | 16        | 2         |
| <i>Westminster-Abbey</i> , sitting in the wooden<br>Chair, &c. _____  | 0         | 11        | 0         |
| A Comedy, including the Book of the Enter-<br>tainment, _____   | 2         | 2         | 0         |
| Journey up the Water in a Pleasure-boat one<br>Afternoon, _____   | 0         | 18        | 0         |
| A Ball, _____   | 4         | 19        | 1½        |
| An Opera, _____   | 9         | 9         | 0         |
| The Beggar's Opera, _____   | 2         | 7         | 0         |
| <i>Greenwich</i> Hospital, _____  | 0         | 14        | 10        |
| Seeing the Blue-coat Boys eat Legs of Mutton,<br>A Concert at <i>Hickford's</i> , _____   | 3         | 0         | 6         |
| Chairs to and from a Drawing-Room, _____  | 0         | 12        | 2         |
| The Damnation of <i>Art and Nature</i> , with Coffee<br>before the Play began, some Drops<br>and fair Water in the fourth Act, and<br>Supper at the <i>Fountain</i> , Miss being un-<br>able to go home directly. _____ | 1         | 16        | 0         |
|   | 0         | 8         | 0         |
| Total   | 51        | 6         | 10        |

HERE, Gentlemen, said the Father, you see all the Accompt I have for expending 51 *l.* 6 *s.* 10 *d.* in one Month, in extraordinary Expences only.

only. — If this Accompt be true, the Price of Pleasure has greatly risen since I was a young Man. —

UPON looking narrowly into each Article, we all agreed that the young Gentleman had acted with Candour in every thing he had charged, and in some with incredible Frugality: Particularly as to the Ball: — In that Particular, said Mr. *Triplet*, he must under-charge his Expence; nine Guineas not being sufficient for Tickets, Habits, and other attending Disbursements; and then in each Article you must absolutely include five Shillings Coach-hire, they being always paid for waiting. — Yes, reply'd the old Gentleman, the loss of the Art of walking, increases the Charge of such Journies very much; and yet it is unaccountable that tho' every Year we are encreasing the number of Turnpikes, to render walking more practicable throughout the whole Nation, yet every Year we find more and more People lose the Use of their Legs; and the last time I was in *London*, I well remember to have seen a Soldier of about twenty-six Years of Age, call a Chair to carry him the length of eleven Houses, tho' the Sun shone out, and the Streets were perfectly clean. — 'Tis well we have no *forty Mile Marches* in our time; if Horses could not pass, I fear we should have Officers to seek before we arrived at the end of the Journey. — We strove to divert the Subject of Expence, which gave the old Gentleman such Disquiet, by asking him what News the Country afforded; he answered, very little that pleased him, for in a time of Peace nothing could grieve him more, than to see the Humour prevail of grubbing up every Tree in the Neighbourhood; for, said he, while the  
Bulwark

Bulwark of the Nation is known to be her wooden Walls, what can we hope for should this mad Fashion continue of laying the whole Country flat? *Gloworm* said, he thought a flat open Country was look'd upon as the best in Times of War, tho' not wanted at present, as affording no Shelter for an Enemy. — No, reply'd the old Gentleman, nor for a Friend, even in time of Peace; an Owner being seldom able to find Shelter long on his Estate, after his Timber has left it.

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## CH A P. XII.

*We weigh Anchor at Stains, suffer a warm Attack from the Shore, and safely arrive at the Bells of Ozeley.*

**W**HEN we returned to our Bark, it was <sup>34</sup> Minutes after Eleven o'Clock; and Mr. *Sippit* could not conceal his Fear of loosing his Dinner at the proper time: Mr. *Mitre* said, while the Birds are under no Concern on this Account, shall we despair? — No, reply'd *Sippit*, somewhat furlily, nor would I, were I as certain of finding it ready dress'd without paying for it. — *Triplet* said, the Country, the farther we advanced, became so pleasant, that Eating would be an Interruption to the Enjoyment of the enchanting Scene; yes, answered *Sippit*, I dare say the Air here will cram you as fat as ever will the fanning Breezes of *Parnassus*; but you must consider, that while you are straining a Poetick Description of what you see for the Benefit of your Dependents, the Stationer and Cheefe-



Cheefemonger, till your soaring Fancy has dragg'd your Stomach out of Sight, I who shall still remain a corporeal Substance, shall stand in need of visible Subsistence, being unable to reach your ætherial Repast. — The Disputes on this Head would probably have lasted much longer, had not Mr. *Gloworm* brought Advice from our Seamen, that we should pass by several Places where we might have the best Provision, upon which *Sam's* Face recovered its former Serenity, and he began to fill his Pipe, and look about him.

We had not got a Mile from *Stains*, when a young Gentleman came to the Water-side, and in a very polite manner, said, he should be glad if we would give him a Cast a few Miles up the River; to which we readily consented, and he instantly stepp'd on board, with the Appearance of much Satisfaction at our taking him in. — He look'd several times toward the Shore, and before we had got well under Sail again, an elderly Woman advanced to the River Side, seeming to be quite out of Breath, and fixing her Eyes on our new Guest, cry'd Villain, I'll follow you, fly where you will; you had best come on Shore, for I'll soon make your Refuge too hot for you; — Our Ship stopp'd, and we asked the meaning of this, but could learn nothing from either of them, but that they both were very blameable; he begg'd we might proceed on our Voyage: She vow'd, if we did not put him out, or take her in, she would make us repent it. However, being sensible that Women's Threats are not always to be regarded; and thinking this Gentlewoman some indulgent Mother, whom her Son might have disobliged by some trifling Offence, we thought

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keeping him a few Hours from her *Résentment* might be of Service to them both; and therefore resolved to keep him with us; we no sooner began to move from her, but she fill'd her Hands with small Stones, Dirt, &c. and threw it at us all without Distinction. — At this sudden Attack, from an Enemy so little known or expected, made us look at one another with some Consternation; and before we had time to say a Word, the Shot was repeated with such Fury, that Mr. *Digit* ran to his Instruments, to secure them from any Danger by the Assault; while Mr. *Mitre* said, that tho' the supposed Tenderness of the Sex was commonly used as an Argument for not returning any Insult offered by a Woman, yet in the present Case he saw no Reason patiently to sit and have our Brains beat out, but thought it very allowable to repel Force by Force; and stooping to furnish himself with some of the Ammunition our Enemy had supply'd us with, he was saluted from the Shore with a Handful of small Stones, which fell round his Head, and made him drop his Design of returning the Attack, to enquire what Wounds he had received. — Mr. *Sippit*, who had been hitherto out of the Engagement, laughed immoderately at our Suffering, and coming with a Glass of Wine in his Hand to revive poor *Mitre*, was so diverted with the Concern that appeared upon him, that he was scarce able to stand on his Legs, when in the Instant, a Volley of Stones hit full upon him, broke the Pipe in his Mouth, and beat the Glass out of his Hand; which made him change Countenance immediately, and vow Revenge. — This speedy Alteration occasioned some Mirth; but finding the Fury of our Assailant rather abate than encrease, we held

held a general Consultation on the present Posture of our Affairs, when it was determined, either to take the Gentlewoman on board our Ship, or put our frighten'd Visitant on Shore, that, whatever might be the Cause of Uneasiness, they might adjust it without affecting others by their Quarrel. — The young Gentleman, in the most pathetic manner, entreated he might not be put into her Power. — *Triplet*, who all the while was taking every Opportunity to put down Notes of the Action in his Snap-thought Leger, said, he believed it would answer both their Purposes best to be kept asunder a little, and as no Bridge seemed near, to favour a Communication, it would certainly be adviseable to put the Gentleman on Shore on t'other Side the River, in which Situation they would have it in their Power to settle every Preliminary to a Reconciliation, without either having an Opportunity to force a Compliance to what the other did not thoroughly approve. This Proposal met with general Approbation, and was executed without Delay. — And certainly nothing could be more vociferous than the old Lady, when she had got to the very Edge of the River, being hardly able to help rushing into the Flood to come at him; he now assumed some Courage, and being out of the Reach of her Resentment, offered to enter into Treaty on some Conditions, to which she seemed totally averse, and just as by the winding of the Stream we lost Sight of them, she renewed her Attack, tho' too far distant to do him any considerable Damage. — We expressed great Surprize at this Adventure, and were assigning it to several Causes; when *Gil Gloworm*, who had been in close Converse with our Refugee most of the



time he was on board, inform'd us that they were Husband and Wife; she 65, he 21, and that finding him in a manner which she did not approve, with her Waiting-Maid, she resented it in such sort, as made him glad to fly the House for Security of his Life.

We had now, by a slow-advancing Pace, got within sight of a Place called *The Bells of Ozeley*, where our Mariners advis'd us to dine, and we found it well worthy our Company. — During our whole Voyage, I do not remember any Part of the River so delightful: It being on a wide Turning of it, the Rapidity of the Stream is thereby rendered almost imperceptible, and the smooth Flood glides gently by, leaving the fertile Banks, which gratefully return that Addition to the Waves, which renders the Prospect pleasing beyond Description: From the Shore, which is covered with a firm gravelly Crust, we had a View of the Town of *Old Windsor*, more beautiful from this Situation, than whatever I meet with in the most favourite Pictures of our best Poets, the Distance being supplied by the Tops of numerous lofty Trees, which carry the Eye, without one Interruption, to the few clean Buildings which most happily terminate the Sight. — I was so pleas'd here, that I could not be easi without endeavouring to get the Assent of some of my Companions to the Idea I form'd of the Place; and telling Mr. *Sippit* how much I admir'd it, ask'd him if he did not think it deserv'd my Approbation; to which he reply'd, with a Coolness I was no way pleas'd with, that he could not blame my Fancy, for he highly approv'd the Place, having been already without his Dinner, full two Hours too long. — Though *Tom Triplet* agreed in my  
Opinion

Opinion, so far as to declare he knew no Spot more suitable for a House for the successive Poet Laureats ——— *Digit* said, it lay too low for Observations; and *Gloworm* said, he should have liked it much better, had it not been in Sight of a Church. ——— Mr. *Mitre* was going to offer his Judgment, when Word being brought of Dinner being on the Table, prevented him.

### CHAP. XIII.

#### *A Description of the MANNERS, CUSTOMS, &c. of the NATIVES of these Countries.*

ONE very important Task of a Traveller, is to describe the Inhabitants of the Countries he visits, which tho' it is the most certain, is, perhaps, the most difficult Part of his Task: In Compliance, however, with this received Method, I shall endeavour the best I can to describe the People inhabiting the Countries bordering on this River; and if my Account, should in any thing fall short of, or deviate from the Truth, I hope it will be attributed to nothing but the want of a better Opportunity for Information; a Case common among Men who give the History of Nations they scarcely had time to set their Feet upon.

THE Buildings are seldom regular; but vary as much as the Genius's which erected them: Frequently there is close joined to a well-fancied Edifice, a tottering Barn, situate in the strongest Line of Perspective, and more exposed to the main Avenue than the House itself. — The next

next Seat to this is probably an Hereditary House, transmitted through several Ages, humble in its first Appearance, and more so the nearer you approach it, to which are join'd a Range of Stables and Coach-Houses, fit to stand behind the most august Palace, and to the outward View, exceeding the Mansion in every Respect: — Near to this, perhaps, is a House and Gardens render'd modern in every Respect, by the Consumption of an ancient Estate, inhabited by one whose Cunning has enabled him to possess what the Extravagance of a giddy Heir would not permit him to retain, and who is often glad to mump a Dinner of which Nature had ordained him the Giver.

SOMETIMES a fine House is found, without common Necessaries for those in the Inside of it; while its nearest Neighbour, under an humble Roof, wantons in Superfluity: — A common Gamester is sometimes seen to lord it over all the Gentlemen around him for a Year or two, and the next Sessions supplicate them to appear in Vindication of his Character: — Habitations built with Intention of being the Seats of Ages, are sometimes sold before the Foundation is well settled, and an Infant Forest levelled with the Earth before the Trees had well taken Root, and not one left upon which its profligate Owner could make his proper Exit.

YET amidst all this, is it not amazing to find Men in these different Stations piquing themselves on religious and political Distinctions, when it is out of the Reach of either Party to tell which are the greatest Fools!

WHILE the *Principles* of Religion are urged upon one another with the greatest Heat, is it



it not strange to see them all agree to the greatest Nicety in their *Practice*? And while each insists on the absolute Necessity of the other's conforming to his Method of Worship, make no Scruple openly to neglect it himself? —

But this must be understood to be spoken of those of the middle Station of Life, Persons of the first Rank commonly *acting* perfectly conformable to their Profession.

THE Men, — but I must beg their Pardon, for the Women are openly in these Countries, allowed the Pre-eminence, and must therefore be first mentioned. —

THE WOMEN are generally tall and well-shaped, very beautiful, and more alike in that Respect, than the Women of any other Country; those who have but a small Share, making it their peculiar Business to increase it by Art; while those to whom Nature has given an uncommon Portion, by an unaccountable Desire of being yet more amiable, and calling in Art to their Assistance, reduce themselves to an Equality with the Former. — Notwithstanding what has been said to the contrary by some Foreign Travellers, I think they are well skill'd in the Science of Dress, and know as well how to suit their Complexions, as any Ladies in the World. — Their Capacities have of late Years so wonderfully encreased, as to give them much Fame for their Attainments in polite Accomplishments; and the trifling Endowments of Needle-work and House-Economy, which made so considerable a Part in the Accomplishments of their Grandmothers, are thought almost wholly unworthy their Attention, their Genius's now fitting them for Actions of a very different Nature: They have among them pro-  
found

found Students in natural Philosophy, some celebrated Architects, an incredible number of exquisite Musicians, whose delicate Ears prefer melodious Nonsense to every other Sound, because there the Attention has no Temptation to lose the Note, in order to pursue the Sense: — They have also much improved in manly Sports and Exercises, and a Horse-Race is now not worth seeing where they make not at least one third of the Company: — And the Advantages accruing to the Gentlemen by these Improvements, are so considerable, that half the Fatigue consequent on the Man's being supposed the Protector of the Fair, is now taken off his Hands; and a Woman of polite Education is as capable of going to any public Diversion, or of introducing herself into any Assembly at Sixteen, as her Brother at Twenty-four.

In point of Love the Custom has been altered from what I have read of former Times, much for the Advantage of the Ladies; for no sooner are Marriage Articles treated of, than Provision is made for the Husband's Death, by a separate Allowance or Maintenance: So that the prophetick Pair, before they come together, have put every thing in readiness for a happy parting; and when a Couple come to be joined, with such salutary Cautions against an ill Husband, it is nothing strange to find the young Lady unwilling to submit to those little Disappointments from which no Station is exempted, and on every trifling Disgust, ready to fly to the *Asylum* provided for her: The Consequence arising from hence, will better suit a stronger Pen than mine, and such an one it well deserves.

WHEN the Ladies are left to their own Conduct in matters of Love, they either quickly risque themselves and Fortunes by a rash inconsiderate Choice, or, if by a lucky Intervention the first Frenzy is diverted, they then treat their Lovers with more affected Freedom than real Affection, search deeper into the Nature and Value of the Estate, than the Man; and should a Pair have advanced to the very Brink of Matrimony, few will blame the Lady if she retreats on view of a better Offer; but should the Gentleman drop his Pretensions on the same Occasion, he is a most *perfidious Wretch*, and not one of the Sex worthy to be believed.

AMONG the Vulgar, Matrimony is upon a much worse Footing; for there, tho' Love is more frequently the Cause of their entering that State, and Separations are not in such Reputation, yet the Wife's Interest is by all who know them, preferred to every other Consideration; and a poor Fellow may toil himself to death, without obtaining a good Character, if by Inability or Misfortune, he is not capable of affording his Spouse an easy comfortable Life of Indolence, whatever he may endure to procure it: For this is the Test of all his Qualifications, and he labours in vain in every respect, if his Success enable him not to do this. So that a *Day-Labourer* is expected to do what is seldom done by *Men of Fortune*, who rarely take Ladies who have not Fortunes sufficient to support them. — Yet so ductile is the human Mind, that what these poor Creatures are used to, appears no Hardship, and under the most terrible Effects of Poverty they are hardly ever without chearful Countenances; and tho' the last Morsel they have in the World, is going down their Throats, shew not the least Apprehension of



Want: — The Women of this Class, would deserve the Indulgence Custom has given them, much better, if they appeared sensible of it by their moderate Use thereof, whereas they seem to look upon a Support out of the Industry of their Husbands as their Birth-right, and resent the Failure thereof, as an Injury done them; while Women in their Circumstances, in the other Nations of *Europe*, are as certain to share in the *Fatigues* of Labour, as in the *Profits* arising thence.

In describing the Women, I have been led to say several things concerning the MEN, which leaves the less for this Place. — Their Statures are from 3 Feet to 7, widely differing in their Makes and Complexions, and are more inclinable to Pleasure than Business; having excellent Capacities for the Invention of Sports and Recreations, which *employ* (to strain the Expression) more than half their time; distance of Place not being considered on these Occasions, whence 24 Hours are often spent in travelling, to have one Hour's Diversion. —

I cannot say this would be so great an Injury to the Publick, were the Humour confined to Men of independent Fortunes: But the Mischief arises from its prevailing among Men of the middle Station, whose Attendance is wanted in their own Affairs, and whose Absence must certainly be prejudicial to their Interests.

The Men are more *sincere* in their Pretensions of *Love*, than the Women, though I will not venture to say more *constant*: Where they *profess* an Affection, they commonly *have* one; but every thing human being mutable, it sometimes happens, that where a Lady has taken a long while to consider whether to love or no, her

her Suitor's Passion begins to *decline*, almost as soon as her's *commences* : And I cannot bring myself to conceive that such an Accident merits the Condemnation it usually meets with, especially from the Fair-Sex ; since every other *Passion* is allowed to have a *Decrease*, without Blame ; and nothing gives us a worse Idea of a Man, than to hear that when he is once *angry*, his Resentment *never cools*. And I much doubt whether that Expectation of *perpetual Adoration*, which swims uppermost in the Heads of most of these young Gentlewomen, be not more borrowed from reading of *Novels* and *Romances*, than from *Reason* or *Human Probability*.

THEY have here a number of excellent *Laws*, and *Regulations*, tending to the Good and Preservation of Society in general, and of every Man's particular Property ; and of these they are not a little vain, boasting of their Excellence to every Stranger who comes in their way ; tho' at the same time, if he be a Man of tolerable Penetration, he must see that what they extol to him as *Advantages* peculiar to themselves, they really esteem *oppressive Restrictions*, there being but few who will not frustrate their Intention in one Point or other, or at least *wink* at their *Violation*.

SUPERIOR *Maxims* and *Guides*, for the due Practice of Religion and Morality, are also much boasted of to Strangers ; but it appears in little more than Words, there being among them numerous Instances of Brutality, Barbarity, and Oppression, which are scarce heard of among those whom they stile *Barbarians*, and never known to be done by People of the same *Nation* and *Interest* one to another. — The *Indians*, who confine their *Laws* to a very small number, esteem the Breach of any one of their *Oral Sta-*

tutes, an unpardonable Offence; and by the Certainty and Severity of the Punishment they inflict, prevent the encrease of Delinquents:

—— While here, by an *habitual Neglect* of many Duties, which are too generally thought insignificant, the *essential ones* lose much of the Reverence due to them, and their Violation is more easily perpetrated; for Vice, as was long ago observed, like confined Waters swiftly widen the smallest Passage. — Hence it is, that *little Villainies* are so frequent, and so lightly regarded, and the most *shocking Offences* heard of without much Concern. — I will not presume to say, the Laws these People have among them are bad, but will venture to affirm, that if they are *good*, they are made very *bad Use* of.

THERE are, on the Banks of the River, a few Gentlemen, who retain pretty much of the *English Hospitality*, and value them much on the Title of *Country Squire*: The Temper prevailing in these Gentlemen, is generally agreeable and beneficial to their Tenants and Neighbours; for by affecting an *Aversion to the Town*, they seldom are longer in it than their Business requires; so that the Income of each Gentleman's Estate of this Character, constantly circulates through the Veins which bring it to the Head, and must contribute not a little to enrich and improve the Value of his Possession; while the Countries which are annually transmitting their Wealth to Owners who never think them worthy their Presence, must labour under numerous Difficulties to send Money to such a Distance as will scarce allow Hope of its ever finding its way so far back.

I SHOULD have mentioned the Men's Features: — They are for the most part made full-fac'd and of fresh Complexions by Nature; but



but the Humour of masquerading has so universally prevailed of late Years, even among such as talk most against it, that you will scarce find a Man of an easy Fortune, who has reached his 30th Year, without a confirmed Disguise : — Some, by an immoderate Affection for *Cbicken* and *French Wine*, no *Exercise*, and an *Easy Chair*, have raised their Cheeks so high as to threaten their Eyes with Interment. — Others, by an over-fondness for *Physick* and *Water-Gruel*, have artfully stripp'd their Visages of every Appearance of Life, except a Pair of ghostly Organs of Sight, which serve for little else than to proclaim the speedy Dissolution of the Fa-brick they enlighten. — Some by an Affec-tion for *Red-port*, have raised their Noses to a frightful Bigness ; — while others, (perhaps from an Aversion to the *Revolution*) have le-velled theirs with the other Parts of their Faces.

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#### C H A P. XIV.

*Mr. MITRE is preserved through imminent Danger, and we reach Windsor-Haven.*

DINNER being over, we re-embarked, with a Resolution of stopping at no other Port before we reached our design'd Haven ; to which Mr. *Sippit* would not consent, till he had got some Provision of Wine, &c. on board, to prevent any Inconvenience from contrary Winds or bad Weather. — The Prospect continued highly pleasing ; and to amuse Mr. *Mitre* from sleeping, who now was very drowsy, our Ma-riners fitted him out a Fishing-Rod and Line, with which he was to angle as we sailed slowly up the Stream : *Mat* was much delighted with  
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the Employment, and promised to procure us enough for Supper, on which *Gil Glowworm* promised to find Sauce:—We stood to laugh at *Mat* some time, but being tired with his Insucces, we left him, and took a View of the opposite Side of the Country. — *Dick Digit* fixing his Eye on a fine shap'd stately Bull, began to expatiate on the superior Beauty of that Beast in its natural Figure, to that which it assumes after Castration; *Triplet* warmly denied this, and insisted that that Operation could not diminish Beauty, since those who have undergone it have obtained the Admiration of those who being the most perfect Forms of the Creation themselves, are undoubtedly the best Judges of what is amiable in others; he was just mentioning some Example or other in the *Hay-market*, when by a sudden Noise in the Water, and an uncommon Bustle among our Sailors, he was interrupted: — We look'd around, but could not quickly perceive the Cause of the Confusion that appeared among them; at length, stepping to the other Side of the Vessel, we had the Mortification to see poor Mr. *Mitre* struggling for Life; a Rope was thrown him in an Instant, by the help of which we soon regain'd him: The Danger he had been in, and the Concern his Death would have given us, made us wait his Recovery from his Fright with profound Gravity. — As soon as he was thoroughly come to himself, we enquired into the Cause of his Misfortune, but found he could not resolve us whether it was occasioned by his falling asleep, by hooking some Fish of an enormous Size, or by the entangling of his Line: But *Sippil* said, that he apprehended it was owing to nothing but an Impatience at the Fish not coming to his Bait the Moment he desired them,

in Revenge for which, he resolved to invade their Element, and rushed into the Stream himself, to bring them out by main Force. — This was followed by an Enquiry into the Nature of Drowning, and a Dispute whether *that* or a *Halter* was the genteelest Exit for a Person in Love?

WE now came in Sight of *Windsor*, which, on Mr. *Mitre's* Account, we were well pleased with: It does not appear to much Advantage from the Water, but has a cleaner Look at some Distance, than any Place we had yet seen in our Voyage. We ordered our Vessel to sail quite up to the Bridge, where, for no Reason that I can tell, unless it were a Byass for Learning, we landed on the Side of *Eaton*, about 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, on the 4th Day of *March*, 1737-8, after a Passage of near 22 Hours. We had no sooner got on Shore, but we found ourselves more fatigued than we expected, and determined to repair to the first House for Publick Reception, that by its outward Appearance proposed genteel Accommodation within; with this Design we wandered a prodigious way to no Purpose, or our Fatigue lengthened it; the chief Subject we talk'd upon, was the great Advantages accruing to Travellers from the old *Eastern* Practice of receiving them, so often mentioned in *Scripture*, and the great Regard due to *Pilgrims*: — At last our wishing Eyes discover'd the College, a stately old Building, and finely situated for the Purpose; and almost over against it Mr. *Sippit* decry'd a Tavern, or Inn, or both, which promised the best Entertainment. Here we stop'd to dispute whether we should view the College to-night or in the Morning; but perceiving each other scarce able to keep our Legs long enough to determine, we entered the House by unanimous Consent.



## C H A P. XV.

*Is the Last.*

**W**HETHER our uncommon Weariness, might not in some Measure contribute to our good Opinion of the House we put up at, I will not venture to say; but certain I am that no Men were ever better pleased with their Reception: Every thing was serv'd up in an elegant Manner, and sold at very reasonable Prices, and *Tom Triplet's* Coffee pleas'd him so much, that he wanted to persuade himself it grew in their own Garden: The Liquors were all excellent in their Kind, and the Lodging Rooms neatly Furnished, and exquisitely clean; and what added much to the Pleasure of the Morning we had a delightful Prospect of the Country from the Windows.

THE Time we remained here I employ'd chiefly in hastily putting down this very rough Account of our Voyage, while my Companions made two or three short Excursions into the adjacent Fields, &c.—Not having ever before been so long in a Publick House, I took great Notice of the Nature of these Places of general Resort, and could not help making a Comparison in my own Imagination between this INN and the UNIVERSE. Into either a Man enters with more or less Advantage, according to the Money he is possessed of, and in both the Regard he meets with, however he may flatter himself with the Deference paid his Merit, is owing to very little else: When his Pocket shrinks, it is not in the *Innkeeper's* Power to continue his Attendance; and when his Estate is gone, he will find *few Friends* who will not desire to be excused from his Acquaintance.

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— In the *Inn* every body seems busy, yet no one knows what the other is about, though they have both slept under the same Roof; and in the *World* this is also frequently the Case; only in the *Inn* we expect it not, and in the *World* we are sometimes deceived by false Informations — In the *Inn*, if we join Company with another, we declaredly do it for our Amusement, and part when we are so disposed, without much Compliment; in the *World* the Motive of many familiar Acquaintances is the same, tho' indeed some other Cause for its ceasing is commonly assign'd, while there is no other at the bottom but a Desire to put an end to a Correspondence which can be no longer pleasing than the Reason for contracting it subsists. — In the *World*, if you are possessed of any thing, several are daily wishing your Departure; and in the *Inn*, ten to one if a Company in the Yard don't wait for your Room with Impatience.

WE went all together to view the *Castle*, *Chapels*, &c. which are certainly worth looking at: But as almost every body has seen them, and they have already been so often described, I choose to avoid the Task; which must be mere Repetition to any Person of Reading. — The Terras-walk is beautiful; but suffers much by the unfinished Gardens which lie under it; all the History I could learn of which being, that they were began by some *Palatines*, who were otherwise employ'd before they had perfected this Work — though their Plan appears to me no way too curious to be compleated by *Englishmen*. — The Royal Lodgings were somewhat out of Repair, which made me buy the Sight of them with the more Reluctance, paying Money on such Occasions being a Custom almost peculiar to our Nation, and what I am

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always ashamed to let Foreigners know. — We enter'd the Terras at the Gate, but I think going upon it by the Stairs which descend from the Court-yard, the fittest to lead Strangers, whereby the Height seems more by the Surprise of going down to so elevated an Eminence.

THE Forest is pleasant, and kept in better Order than any of the Royal Parks I have seen; especially considering the Extent of it: — While we were walking here, Mr. *Triplet*, who had bought it in the Town, was so intent on *Pope's* Poem which is named from hence, that Mr. *Gloworm* was obliged to keep a strict Eye upon him, to prevent him from running his Head against the Trees — when we had gone about a Mile in it, *Mitre* and *Sippit* protested against going any farther, on Consideration that so as far as we would, we should have the same space to come back again; this Argument, however unanswerable, prevailed not on any more than themselves; wherefore we agreed that they should return, and see that Dinner was ready punctually at the Hour appointed, at which Time Mr. *Sippit* declared it should be brought upon the Table, whether we were return'd or no.

WE struck out at one Side of the Forest, to look at the Flocks that were feeding on the Declivity of a pleasant Hill, where the poor Shepherd being very indifferently cloathed, put *Diggit* upon asking, whether these were the *Originals* the *Copies* are taken from which are exhibited in our Theatres! Yes, why not, said *Triplet* do you imagine the Dress the Stage Shepherds are put in, less natural than the Speeches they are made to utter? and every Character to be just, you know must be consistent with itself. — Our Beaus would be mightily pleased, instead of a fine shap'd young Fellow in a Silk Jacket with



a golden Crook in his Hand, with shining Locks flowing in the wanton Air, and a Bonnet encircled with a *Wreath of Flowers*; to have that poor Fellow enter, with a *Ferkin on the Point of Dissolution*, scarce a *Stocking*, or *Shoe* to his Feet, a *crooked Staff* in his Hand of Nature's sole *Workmanship*, *Hair* almost knotted for want of a *Comb*, a Hat hardly strong enough to keep on his Head, and a *band of Straw* ty'd round it to hold it together! No, no; where *Nature is deficient*, *Art* must help her out; — what else have the tuneful Nine to exercise themselves in? — Besides you should consider, that the Stage Shepherds are often Deities who delighted in that Employment, 'till it grew too scandalous for them to follow it any longer — And is it not odd, said *Gloworm*, that they should resume their Function in a Christian Land, with such general Approbation? —

IN our Return to *Eaton* we overtook an innocent Couple who by their Blushing at our Approach seem'd to be intent on the Subject of Love, the becoming Confusion that appeared in the Countenance of the Fair-one, had something in it so pleasing, and was what we had been so little used to in *London*, that *Triplet* could not help pointing out the Power and Beauty of the Blush, we then saw, compared to the studied Imitations to which we are accusom'd in Town; there is not, said he, greater Difference between the Charms of the opening Morning, and the Representations of *Aurora* on our Theatres; than between that Blush, and one from the Side-Boxes; the latter produces neither Awe nor Admiration, while the former pleases and repels the same Instant; and there are more native Charms, more real Virtue, under that humble Outside, than I would under-  
take

take to collect from beneath five hundred Suits of Brocade. — The listening Innocent quicken'd her Pace on hearing herself spoken of in a Manner she so little understood, and her Lover, casting an anxious Leer at *Tom*, hastened from us with all the speed his lovely Companion could make. — We called after him, assuring him we meant not any way to interrupt them, and though we were all ready to envy his Happiness, not one of us would invade it; but he was deaf to all we could say, and they walk'd so fast that we were obliged to lose their Company.

We liked our Entertainment at *Eaton* so well, that we staid there several Days, during which Time our Vessel rode at Anchor in the Bay: And when we began to think of our Departure for London, some Difference arose in our Inclinations, as to the Manner of our Return: But as repeating our Voyage would be tedious, when without the help of Novelty to make it agreeable, we resolved by a Majority of 4 to 2, on returning by Land; and gave Orders for our Ship to go back without us.

Mr. *Sippit* and Mr. *Mitre* insisted on having a Chaise, or to be allowed the Liberty of the Stage-Coach; both of them declaring absolutely against venturing on Horseback. — A Chaise was agreed upon, which would have Convenience for Mr. *Sippit* to continue his Office; and we are now viewing Horses for the rest of us, in order to set out To-morrow Morning: But having an Opportunity to send this, I am willing to embrace it; and am,

S I R,

Your most Humble Servant.

*Christopher, at Eaton,*  
March 9, 1737-8.